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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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Vol. 27 Harrisburg, January 1, 1942 No. 1

ACREAGE CERTIFIED FOR SEED POTATOES LARGEST ON RECORD

A TOTAL of 219,972 bushels of potatoes of the 1941 Pennsylvania crop have been certified for seed by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced, which is only 59 bushels less than the highest year since certification was begun. There were 1,599 acres of potatoes entered this year for certification compares with 1,824 acres entered last year when the total potato crop amounted to 900,000 bushels more than in 1941. The fact, however, that of the acres entered, 873 acres were certified which is the highest acreage certified since this work was started in this State and compared with 813 acres certified last year, is held as an indication of the great progress which is being made in the production of higher grade tubers as a result of the certification program. The average yield of the crop on the acres certified was 276.8 bushels per acre which is more than double the normal average for the commercial crop produced in this State.

Seed potatoes were certified in 18 counties. While the bulk of the crop is entered in Potter County, there is good distribution throughout the State. It is the aim of the Department of Agriculture to make certified seed available in as many counties as possible so that local growers will have ready access to the best sources of seed. Certified seed is available in Bradford, Butler, Cambria, Crawford, Erie, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lehigh, Mercer, Monroe, Northampton, Potter, Somerset, Sullivan, Tioga, Warren and Wyoming counties.

The Russet is still the leading variety certified, totaling 122,503 bushels. White Rurals rank second with 39,446 bushels; Katahdins, third with 38,182 bushels; Chippewas, fourth with 13,429 bushels; Pounmas, 12,431 bushels; Nittany Cobblers, 7,140 bushels; Pennigans, 3,748 bushels; Allegheny Mountains, 3,456 bushels; Sebagos, 807 bushels; Sequia, 38 bushels, and Green Mountains, 200 bushels.

In 1940 Pennsylvania ranked thirteenth in total production of certified seed among the 29 producing states. In the production of both Russets and White Rurals this State ranked second and fifth for Katahdins.

It is estimated that approximately 700,000 bushels of potatoes are planted each year in this Sate but there is no record of the number of bushels of certified seed used. Growers of this State purchase a considerable amount of certified seed in other states and growers from other states likewise purchase considerable Pennsylvania certified seed.

TEST 44,804 CATTLE FOR BANG'S DISEASE

DURING the month of November 44,804 cattle were tested for Bang disease, according to the report of the Bureau of Animal Industry to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. Of that number 1,104 cattle were found to be affected by the disease and were condemned. State idemnities for condemned cattle paid during the month amounted to $39,698 and the idemnity paid by the Federal Government totaled $2,160. At the end of the month there were 6,273 Certified herds of cattle and 5 Certified goat herds in this State.

During the month 83 calves in 10 herds comprising 415 cattle were given the initial calfhood vaccination under the plan adopted last March as a preventive measure for Bang disease. Seven permits were also issued for administering the vaccination, which brings the total issued since inaugurating the plan to 107. The vaccination method is now being practiced in 93 herds. Since March the total number of vaccination reports received involves 1,122 calves in 180 herds of cattle.

A total of 64,143 cattle were tested during the same month for tuberculosis of which only 113 cattle were found to be infected. A total of 189 goats were also tested and none of them reacted to the test. A total of $2,640 was paid in state indemnity to herd owners for condemned cattle in addition to a total Federal Government indemnity of $2,608.

1941 PA. APPLE CROP LARGER THAN 1940

PRELIMINARY figures of the Department of Agriculture place the 1941 Pennsylvania apple crop at 9,313,000 bushels compared with 9,100,000 bushels last year and the previous five-year average of 9,317,000 bushels. A higher percentage of the crop has been and is being used for processing apple products than in any previous year.

According to the 1942 fruit outlook report fruit producers throughout the country may expect the most favorable demand situation for the output in 1942 than has prevailed for more than a decade. Consumer purchasing power is expected to continue to increase and the present prospect is for a considerable expansion in the export outlet resulting from the lend-lease program. It is held to be not likely that all important fruit crops and growers will share alike in the improved situation but that the fruit industry as a whole faces favorable prospects.

PA. EGG PRODUCTION EXCEEDS PREVIOUS RECORDS FOR NOV.

POULTRY flocks on Pennsylvania farms have taken up the challenge for defense with the establishment of new production records, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture issued by Secretary John H. Light. On December 1 the average rate of egg production was 29.4 eggs per 100 hens which was a new record for that date and was the second consecutive month to exceed the previous high record by about 10 percent. The average rate of egg production on the first of each month for the current year indicates that total egg production for Pennsylvania this year will exceed 1940 by about five percent and will be the largest in recent years. The number of layers on December 1 was 15,232,000 compared with 14,740,000 on the comparable date last year. Egg production for November was 130 million compared with 111 million for that month in 1940. The monthly number of eggs per layer increased from 7.5 in November, 1940, to 8.5 eggs last month.

Farm flocks this year for the State have averaged slightly below 1940 but have been increasing rapidly during November and December and are now about equal to the average of the past five years. Pullets not yet of laying age on December 1 were indicated to be about 15 percent more than a year ago.

For the country as a whole egg production in November was a record for the month in practically all parts of the country, both in rate of lay per bird and in total production of eggs. Total production for the nation was 11 percent larger than in November last year and 39 percent above the previous 10-year average. More than half of the increase was due to a higher rate of lay and the balance to an increase in the number of layers.

Farm flocks throughout the country were the largest for the month of November since 1930. Production of baby chicks by commercial hatcheries during November was 66 percent larger than the previous record output of November last year. Most of the chicks were for commercial broiler production. The commercial production of broilers and fryers has increased greatly this year, and in view of the large production, particularly during recent months, the prices of broilers and fryers have not increased relatively as fast as grain prices. Chicks booked on December 1 for future delivery showed an increase of 65 percent over the similar date last year. Of the November hatchings for the country 94 percent were of heavy breeds and six percent of light breeds, the same proportions shown for November, 1940.

Compilations for Pennsylvania show that the average price received per dozen eggs for the fourth quarter, not including December, was 39.4 cents compared with 30.1 cents for that quarter in 1940. The average cost of 100 pounds of laying mash was $2.63 compared with $2.18 last year; the average cost of 100 pounds of scratch feed was $1.98 compared with $1.71 and the number of eggs needed to buy 100 pounds of feed was 70 this year compared with 78 during the last quarter last year.

1319 LIVESTOCK ARE ENTERED FOR PRIZES AT PENNA. FARM SHOW

ENTRIES of livestock for exhibition at the Pennsylvania Farm Show which will be held from January 19 to 23 in the great Farm Show Building, total 1,319 not including the 4-H sheep entries which have not yet been compiled. Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, who is the Farm Show Commission chairman, has announced. This figure represents a slight increase over the number of entries in the 1941 show and shows that the chaotic conditions existing throughout the world have not caused an interruption in the interest of the Pennsylvania farmer in the development of high grade cattle.

In the list as compiled the entries of horses number 105 which is an increase of five over the last show. There are 335 sheep not including the 4-H exhibits. The swine entries, numbering 309 including the vocational classes, show the greatest increase over the 1941 show in which 265 animals were recorded. There are 109 breed type beef cattle entered in addition to the 100 baby beef entries made by the 4-H Clubs throughout the State. As in previous shows, dairy cattle, numbering 361 head of the five different breeds, lead the list of livestock entries.

The horse entries are confined to the Belgian and Percheron breeds, the dairy breeds shown are the Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein-Friesian and Jersey; the beef cattle are of the Aberdeen-Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn breeds; swine breeds are Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc Jersey, Hampshire, Poland China and Spotted Poland China, and the sheep breeds are Southdown, Oxford, Dorset, Cheviot, B and C Type Merino and Rambouillet.

In commenting upon the livestock division of the 1942 show, Secretary Light stated that "it is most gratifying to find that the conditions of unstability and uncertainty existing today are not having any effect upon the interest of Pennsylvania farmers in the continued development of agriculture along more efficient and more highly productive lines. Since livestock entries at the Farm Show are confined to the products of Pennsylvania, the livestock division of the show is representative of the fine cattle development which is taking place in this State. Under any conditions there is nothing of greater importance than that the farmer has only high grade and high producing cattle. Nothing contributes more to this end than widespread interest in an event like the great Pennsylvania Farm Show."

Of the total of $42,558 cash prizes which are offered in the 1942 show, $24,343 is offered in livestock awards.

DOG LICENSES, FINES AMOUNT TO $25,623

LICENSE fees and fines under the Division of Dog Law Enforcement of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture resulted in a total revenue of $25,623 to the State during the month of November, according to the report to Secretary John H. Light. A total of 18,392 individual dog licenses were issued and 1,769 stray and uncontrolled dogs were killed by police officers for which $1 per head is paid by the State.

Investigation was made of 168 claims for damages to livestock and poultry by dogs, the total damages having been appraised at $2,841 which was paid by the State. The State collected from dog owners $143 for damages caused by their dogs. Settlements made between claimants and owners of dogs amounted to $698.

DEMAND, PRICES UP FOR PENNA. GRAPES

DEMAND for Pennsylvania grapes has been keen and prices offered are much higher than in the past two years, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. Harvest of grapes in the Erie belt was early this year, having been completed in most of the vineyards about the middle of October. The crop, placed at 16,500 tons, was probably the smallest in the past 15 years, having been reduced by late Spring frosts, wind, hail and dry weather. Quality was good, the berries having been sweet and remarkably free from disease.

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MILK PRODUCTION IN PENNA. SHOWS GAINS FEEDING IS FACTOR

MILK production in Pennsylvania is making great strides toward filling the requested increases under the defense program, past records having been broken in the average production per cow, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture released by Secretary John H. Light. On December 1 the reports show that the average production per cow in herds on Pennsylvania farms was 16.2 pounds which was the highest rate on record. It was also the first time in nine years that the December rate has exceeded the November rate of production. This situation is also true for the country at large.

Factors contributing to the heavy milk production were more milk cows on farms, unusual milk weather, liberal supplemental feeding and a somewhat early seasonal upturn in freshening, according to the reports.

November milk production for the nation was about 8.3 million pounds and exceeded production in the same month last year by six percent. This increase, it is pointed out, which would have seemed disturbing under ordinary conditions, was not quite large enough to meet the new needs, according to Federal surveys.

While fluid milk prices continue to rise the dominant factors in the price situation are the trends in manufactured dairy product markets. The quantities of dairy products manufactured continue to show marked regional and seasonal adjustments. With the prices of cheese and condensery products maintained at relatively high levels, an increasing number of dairymen are finding market outlets in these products. The attempt to meet this demand is further evidenced by the high rate of feeding throughout the country which averaged 6.6 pounds per cow on Pennsylvania farms on December 1, which was nearly 12 percent above the corresponding date last year. Liberal feeding of concentrates continues in spite of recent rising feed costs.

Milk production is being pushed about as fast as is practicable and at increasing cost. Dairy herds are being increased and part of the increase is being obtained by keeping low-producing cows that would ordinarily be culled. In recent months cheese factories and condenseries have been obtaining an increasing proportion of the milk used for manufacturing purposes. As the seasonal decline in deliveries left them with some otherwise unused plant capacity they have been able to outbid creameries for the local milk supply because prices of both cheese and evaporated milk are about a third higher than a year ago while the price of butter shows practically no increase. The trend of creamery butter production appears to depend largely on the rate of domestic consumption, for stocks are more than 50 percent larger than usual for this season of the year and about equal to the quantity usually consumed per month.

It seems probable that butter production will continue low this winter where there are opportunities to divert the milk.

APPLE EXHIBIT TO SHOW MARKET GRADE

ONE of the most colorful displays of the entire Pennsylvania Farm Show, the apple display, is expected to be outstanding this year according to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture, who is chairman of the Farm Show Commission. Due to the short crop of apples harvested this Fall it may not be the largest display the show ever had but it is expected to be of high quality and particularly strong in the commercial entries. The so-called "Commercial Class" is made up entirely of Pennsylvania apples just as they are packed for market and picked at random from packed bushels in storage and not "cream of the crop" entries picked especially for the show. In other words this class of fruit gives a true cross section display of the quality of apples which Pennsylvania fruit growers are actually selling on the markets. The commercial class of apples has been improving both in quality and quantity each year.

Approximately 75 orchardists of the state are entering about 250 bushels.

ORDERS EXTENSION OF QUARANTINE FOR DUTCH ELM DISEASE

ADDITIONAL areas in several Eastern and Northeastern counties have been placed nuder quarantine for Dutch elm disease under an order signed by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture.

The quarantine and supplemental regulations prohibit the movement from the regulated areas of any and all parts of elms of all species, whether forest, nursery or otherwise grown, except that elm lumber or products manufactured from or containing elm wood, if entirely free from bark, are exempt from restriction.

No restrictions are placed on the movement of those products wholly within the regulated areas.

Shipments originating outside the regulated areas are exempt from restrictions excepting when moving through quarantined areas they must be transmitted on through bill of lading and such movement by highway vehicle is permitted only during the period November 1 to March 31 unless the restricted articles are covered.

The new areas placed under quarantine are: Township of Amity, in Berks County; all of Bucks County except the townships of Lower Southampton and Upper Southampton; townships of Lower Milford, Salisbury, and Upper Saucon, and the borough of Coopersburg, in Lehigh County; townships of Hanover, Pittston and Plains, city of Wilkes-Barre, and the boroughs of Ashley, Edwardsville, Forty Fort, Kingston, Larksville, Plymouth, Sugar Notch, Warrior Run and Wyoming, in Luzerne County; townships of Middle Smithfield, Smithfield, and Stroud, and the boroughs of Delaware Water Gap, East Stroudsburg and Stroudsburg, in Monroe County; townships of Franconia, Hatfield, Lower Merion, Lower Moreland, Marlboro, New Hanover, Perkiomen, Salford, Upper Hanover, Upper Merion, West Norriton, and that portion of Whitemarsh Township northeast of Stanton Avenue, and the boroughs of Bridgeport, Bryn Athyn, West Greenville, Greenlane, Hatfield, Narberth, Pennsburg, Red Hill, Souderton, West Conshohocken, and West Telford, in Montgomery County; townships of Bethlehem, Hanover, Lower Mount Bethel, Lower Saucon, Upper Mount Bethel, and Williams, the city of Easton and the boroughs of Freemansburg, Glendon, Hellertown, Portland, West Easton, and Wilson, in Northampton County; ward 35, in the city of Philadelphia, in Philadelphia County; and the townships of Harmony and Jackson, and the borough of Lanesboro, in Susquehanna County.

INCREASE SHOWN IN STORAGE PRODUCTS

REPORTS from cold storage warehouses and meat-packing establishments throughout the United States indicate the following situation as of December 1:

Stocks of frozen fruits, frozen vegetables, butter, cheese, frozen eggs, frozen poultry, and frozen and cured beef were well in excess of holdings of these commodities on December 1, 1940, and the December 1936-40 five year average. On the other hand, fresh apples, shell eggs and frozen and cured pork stocks were well below those of December 1, 1940, but considerably above the December 1 average.

Holdings of apples were slightly reduced from November 1, 1941, a departure from the usual increase during the month. Stocks of frozen fruits and berries were reduced by a net total of 14.4 million pounds. Frozen vegetable stocks showed a slight increase, apparently due to freezings of broccoli and spinach.

Butter stocks were reduced by 34 million pounds during the month, cheese by half a million, shell eggs by 2.2 million cases, and frozen eggs by 24 million pounds.

Frozen poultry holdings were increased by 44.5 million pounds, which is about normal for the season.

Stocks of frozen and cured beef were increased by 25.7 million pounds, pork by 39 million, and all frozen and cured meats by 75.6 million. Lard holdings were reduced by 1 million, however.

BEEF CATTLE PRIZES TOTAL $5,270 IN '42 PENNA. FARM SHOW

PRIZES totaling $5,270 are offered for beef cattle entries at the Pennsylvania Farm Show which will be held January 19 to 23 in the great Farm Show Building. That division of competitive exhibits of livestock is one of the most important at the stupendous annual agricultural event and included in the large aggregation are the best of Pennsylvania's famous cattle which are raised for the beef markets.

There are a large number of entries in each of the three leading breed divisions which are recognized by the Farm Show Commission for showing at the show. They are the Aberdeen-Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn. In each of the divisions prizes are offered for individual bulls of various ages, cows and groups. In each of the first two classes ribbons are awarded to senior, junior and grand champions in addition to the cash awards.

In addition to the regular beef cattle division there are 100 4-H baby beef entries which are always the source of highly spirited competition and which are placed on auction at the famous baby beef sale conducted the last day of the show.

Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture and Farm Show Commission chairman stated today that "the great development of the 4-H Baby Beef club work has always been a source of pride to me and this great interest as manifested by the excellent specimens entered from all sections of this State, give assurance not only of maintaining the important position of beef cattle raising on Pennsylvania farms, but is absolute assurance as well of producing the best cattle and this in turn means greater success for agriculture for it is in quality products that farming must depend for its success."

Special treatment of the concrete floor of the Main Exhibition Building of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Building for the purpose of decreasing the dust problem have been under test the past few weeks with the result that indications are that the problem has reached the nearest possible solution. Various efforts have been made in the past to overcome the dust which accumulates from cement as the result of heavy use which is at a maximum during the Farm Show when the floors are used by hundreds of thousands of people but without the desired success. The new treatment has given satisfactory results under the tests which have been applied during the past few weeks.

The same methods will be used in eliminating dust in the arenas which were followed during the last show which proved satisfactory. The floors which are of mixtures of various types of earth are frequently disced previous to and during the show and great quantities of water are applied, but in the proper amount to keep the floors in condition necessary for the various functions for which the arenas are used.

There has been no dust problem in the arenas during the last show nor during any of the events which were conducted there during the past season but some dust necessarily arises from the surrounding horse stalls from the heavy use of straw for the 100 horses which are entered for exhibition purposes.

LIST ACREAGES OF VARIOUS PA. CROPS

ACCORDING to the records of the Department of Agriculture acreages planted to the various crops and vegetables in this State last year were as follows: Corn, 1,282,000; wheat, 876,000; oats, 876,000; barley, 139,000; rye, 57,000; buckwheat, 112,000; potatoes, 158,000; tobacco, 35,700; hay, 2,325,000 acres making a total of hay and grain crops of 5,860,700 acres.

The truck crop acreages were: Cabbage, 3,300; celery, 840; lettuce, 330; tomatoes for market, 2,400; spinach, 1,800; green peas, 8,000; sweet corn, 12,200, and tomatoes for processing, 22,000 acres. The total for all commercial truck crops for fresh market was 24,260 acres and the total for crops used for processing was 48,030 acres.

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ANOTHER DECLINE IN WHEAT ACREAGE IS RECORDED IN PENNA.

ACREAGE seeded to Winter wheat last Fall in Pennsylvania for harvest xt Summer shows another heavy de- ne from the 1941 harvested acreage, cording to reports of the Federal-State op survey released by Secretary John Light of the Department of Agricul- re. The seeded acreage is placed at 5,000 acres compared with 883,000 acres eded in the Fall of 1940 for last year's rvest. The decline has been consistent er the past several years, the average eded acreage for the years from 1930 1939 having been 987,000 acres. Over at period the average annual produc- n of wheat in this State was 18,808,000 shels compared with 16,712,000 bushels st year and an indicated crop of 15,105,- 0 bushels this year.

The decline last year and in the acreage eded for harvest this year is attributed a considerable extent to the establish- ent of the quota system by the United ates Department of Agriculture, which strenuously opposed by many farmers this State.

Pennsylvania has aways been a wheat porting state, never having produced ficient of that grain for the require- ents of the State and with the steady cline in acreage from year to year the ficiency in supply continues to become eater.

Material reduction in acreage of Winter heat seeded last Fall has also been made roughout the country, the total acreage ing placed at 39,318,000 acres compared th 45,663,000 acres seeded in 1940 for t year's harvest and an average of 875,000 acres for the previous 10 years.

The same downward trend is shown in eage sown in this State to rye. The eage sown last Fall is estimated at 000 acres compared with 81,000 acres year previous and an average of 000 acres over the previous 10 years.

According to the reports the mild and rm temperature have kept wheat and er Winter grains growing much longer an usual this Fall and the setbacks of dry weather at seeding time have been gely overcome. The prospective crops pear good and surface moisture has n ample for good growth. Subsoil isture, however, is deficient except in west central counties and the crop uld decline rapidly with a spell of dry ather next Spring.

DEFINITION GIVEN FOR LEGAL BUSHEL

AS a result of many inquiries received from growers and shippers of farm oducts regarding the legal quantity con- ned in a bushel, a further explanation the regulation has been issued by the partment of Agriculture.

In selling apples, potatoes, onions or her fruits and vegetables in the original andard container, the legal measurement made by cubic volume and not by eight. After the original contents of e package have been broken however, e package must be sold by weight and t by volume. This change was made an act of the Legislature in 1937 in e passage of the "Volume Bushel Bill."

It is stated by Department officials that roughout the State potatoes are not ing sold extensively in peck bags which nstitute the original standard containers. these packages are legally marked ne peck" and contain one peck volume- easure of potatoes they may be legally ld in Pennsylvania regardless of their eight.

In answering the inquiry of what con- tutes a legal bushel, it is explained at a package containing 2,150.42 cubic ches, or 32 quarts of dry measure con- ins a legal bushel.

GIVE WARNING

THE importance of thoroughly cook- ing pork before it is eaten is pointed by the Bureau of Animal Industry of e Department of Agriculture. Pork not perly cooked is a source of trichinosis, hich is a parasitic disease. The parasites n infest hogs even under the most sani- y conditions.

Particularly at this time of the year hen butchering is done, it is suggested at care be taken in the preparation of various pork products. It is suggested at during the Winter season severe out-

PA. POTATO INDUSTRY HAS BIG INVESTMENT

THE potato industry in Pennsylvania represents an investment of approximately 100 million dollars in addition to farmland investments, according to compilations of the Department of Agriculture made known by Secretary John H. Light. The annual farm cash income from this important division of agriculture, is about 35 million dollars and large payments are made annually in farm taxes and mortgage payments.

To grow this important food crop Pennsylvania growers spend annually more than five million dollars for seed, spraying materials, fertilizers and other supplies. About 50,000 tons of steel for sprayers, tractors and trucks are required annually to grow and transport the crop to market and 100,000 gallons of gasoline are required daily during season to operate the equipment. It requires 20 million hours of farm labor to produce the crop for which wages amounting to about five million dollars are paid annually.

To transport the annual potato crop produced in this State to market and to transport the necessary suppies to the farm would require 35,000 railroad cars or a train reaching from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh.

FARM EMPLOYMENT SHOWS DECREASE IN THIS AREA; WAGES UP

IN the country as a whole farm employment declined less than usual in November and the total number of persons working in agriculture on December 1 was slightly higher than a year earlier, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. The December 1 estimate of 9,349,000 persons compares with 10,420,000 for November 1 this year and 9,320,000 persons working on farms on December 1, 1940.

The number of hired farm workers, estimated at 2,233,000 on December 1 was the largest for this date since 1935 and was only 344,000 less than on November 1. This is the smallest seasonal decline between these months in the 16-year series of monthly estimates. The number of unpaid family workers also declined less than usual during November, but the estimate of 7,116,000 workers was the lowest on record for December 1, comparing with 7,843,000 on November 1 and 7,213,000 on December 1 last year. A shift in status from unpaid to paid workers for many members of farm operators' families probably accounts for much of the relative increase in the number of hired workers. A tendency to retain hired help through the slack season in order to be more sure of having them when needed next Spring may also be a factor in keeping up the number of hired workers.

In the Middle Atlantic states, comprising Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey, total farm employment on December 1 was placed at 570,000 compared with 585,000 on November 1, and 632,000 on October 1. On December 1, 1940, the figure was 574,000 compared with 600,000 on November 1 of that year and 621,000 on October 1.

Of the number employed on December 1, 400,000 are listed as family workers including farm operators compared with 402,000 on November 1 and 401,000 on October 1.

For the country at large annual average wage rates increased from $55.50 per month with board in July to $59.65 in October and from $78.47 per month without board in July to $85.19 in October. The average daily rate with board increased during that period from $2.63 to $2.97 and without board from $3.33 to $3.73.

Vegetables Harvested

Harvesting of late vegetables has been completed in the vegetable areas of this State and sales to the markets are now being made from storages. Practically all the celery has been placed in trenches and sales are being made from those sources.

GIVE WARNING—Continued

breaks of trichinosis are likely to occur as during that season, smoked and dried sausage and various other products containing pork are eaten without cooking in households in which the eating of uncooked pork products is customary. Thorough cooking destroys the trichinae.

POULTRY ENTRIES IN PENNA. FARM SHOW GREATER THAN 1941

PRELIMINARY compilations indicate that the total number of birds to be exhibited in the poultry division of the Pennsylvania Farm Show which will be held January 19 to 23 in the Farm Show Building, will exceed the number of entries in the 1941 show which was 4,069. Of the total number of entries approximately 200 birds are entered by out-of-State breeders, the poultry division being the only one of the show in which other than Pennsylvania exhibitors are permitted to enter.

There are a total of 336 exhibitors which indicates not alone the great interest taken in the show as a source of valuable exhibition but also shows the importance of Pennsylvania as a poultry state. Included in the out-of-State exhibitors are breeders from California, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Indiana, New York, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey and North Carolina which also indicates the high standing of the Pennsylvania Farm Show throughout the country and its importance in the field of poultry.

The number of entries of poultry total 3,095, many of which comprises several birds. There are 80 birds entered by the 4-H Clubs and 237 birds are entered by vocational pupils, the latter entries being in pens of three birds.

Including prizes for baby chicks and dressed turkeys a total of $8,501 is offered as cash awards in the poultry division of the show.

Exhibition space in the great farm show building devoted to the poultry department covers approximately 32,000 square feet. Fifty-six different breeds and varieties are included in the exhibits in addition to 14 game and 12 ornamental breeds and varieties of Bantams. Listed among the awards to be made are six breeds of turkeys, 11 breeds of ducks and eight breeds of geese.

Pennsylvania holds a high position among all the states in the poultry industry, latest figures showing that it ranks first in the value of eggs produced. The value exceeds 37 million dollars annually. In 1940 the total production in this State was 2,042,000,000 eggs. In 1940 nearly 24 million chickens were produced on the farms of this State and on January 1 last year there were more than 19 million chickens on the farms which had a value of 89 cents per head or a total value of more than 17 million dollars.

FARM TAX IN PENNA. NEARLY 10 MILLIONS

ACCORDING to the agricultural census the 130,983 farms of this State which reported in the enumeration paid a total of $9,975,523 in real estate tax in 1939. There are 169,027 farms in Pennsylvania. The average tax per acre is placed at 96 cents and the amount paid on each $100 valuation is given as $1.67.

That tabulation is made of the farms operated by full and part owners of which there are 140,109 farms in this State. Of the number of farms reporting in that classification, 15,609 farmers reported personal property taxes totaling $242,727, or an average of $16 for each farmer.

In the tabulation of specified farm expenditures, 64,757 reporting farms showed an expenditure of $25,529,064 in 1939 in cash wages paid for hired labor exclusive of housework and contract construction work. A total of 127,566 farms reported having spent a total of $44,336,018 for feed for domestic animals and poultry and 52,619 farms reported expenditures of $19,902,211 for implements and machinery. A total of $12,206,899 was spent by 114,955 farms for commercial fertilizer and liming materials and 108,368 reporting farms spent a total of $8,976,874 for fertilizer.

CROPS ARE AIDED

TRUCK crop growers in Pennsylvania were enabled to complete harvest of late crops and clean up their fields before Winter set in as a result of the unusually warm weather during December, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. Due to the warm weather, however, the keeping qualities of trenched celery have been impaired and some losses have occurred to root crops in pit storage.

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INCREASE INDICATED IN PENNA. HOG CROP DROP SHOWN IN 1941

IN spite of the higher hog prices which prevailed, there was a decrease in the Pennsylvania pig crop in 1941 compared with that of 1940. According to the Federal-State Crop reports issued by the Department of Agriculture a total of 833,000 pigs were raised in this State last year compared with 893,000 in 1940. All of the decrease is represented in the reduced number of pigs saved of the Spring crop, the period of which is from December 1 to June 1. In that period for 1941 the number of pigs declined to 384,000 compared with 451,000 in the 1940 Spring period. The Fall pig crop, the period extending from June 1 to December 1, showed an increase of 7,000, going from 442,000 in 1940 to 449,000 last year. The number of pigs saved per litter also increased from 6.60 the year previously to 6.70 last year.

The number of sows farrowed during the June 1 to December 1 period was the same in both 1940 and 1941, the number being 67,000. The number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions reports, covering the period from December 1 to June 1 however, shows an increase of about 20 percent, the number last year being placed at 60,000 and the indicated number for the present period being 72,000. This is about eight percent below the indicated increase for the country at large.

The production and market supply of hogs in the United States during 1942 promises to exceed materially all previous records. The 1941 Fall pig crop, which will be marketed largely in the Spring and Summer of 1942, is 18 percent larger than the Fall crop of 1940 and the largest Fall crop on record.

The Fall pig crop of 1941 was larger this year than last in all regions and in nearly all States. The number of pigs saved in the fall season of 1941, estimated at 35,580,000 head, is 33 percent above the 10-year (1930-39) average, and about six percent larger than the previous record Fall crop of 1939.

The number of sows farrowed this Fall, estimated at 5,531,000 was up 16 percent from last year and was the largest on record. The number of pigs saved per litter, at 6.43, was also the largest for all seasons on record. Likewise the proportion and number of sows farrowed in October and November were the largest on record.

The combined Spring and Fall pig crops of 1941 is estimated at 85,035,000 head. This number is about 5,200,000 head, or 6½ percent larger than the combined crop of 1940, and is only about two million head or about two percent smaller than the record crop of 1939.

If indicated farrowings are realized, and the number of pigs saved per litter should equal the average of the last five years, the number of pigs saved in the Spring season of 1942 would be about 62 million head. This number would be about seven million head larger than in any Spring season of record going back to 1924. If the Fall pig crop of 1942 should only be as large as the Fall crop of this year the combined pig crop of 1942 would be over 97 million head. This number would be about 10 million head larger than any other pig crop on record.

9,996 HOGS TREATED FOR CHOLERA IN PA.

DURING the month of November 9,996 swine in Pennsylvania were vaccinated against hog cholera under supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The vaccinations took place on 120 different premises and the disease was found to exist on six premises which were quarantined.

923,000 Cows In Penna.

With 923,000 head, Pennsylvania ranks tenth among all the states of the country in the number of milk cows. The value of the cows is placed at $73,840,000, placing the State sixth among all the States.

Fifth In Maple Products

Pennsylvania ranks fifth among the States producing maple products. In 1940 Pennsylvania products netted nearly $500,000 to producers. This income was received from the sale of 172,501 gallons of syrup and 55,703 pounds of maple sugar.

PRODUCTION 63.61% IN EGG LAYING TEST

THE report of the thirteenth week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test showed that production to that time was 63.61 percent with a total production of 63,961 eggs by the 1,105 birds entered. The average eggs per bird was 57.88 and the average weight of the eggs was 23.52 ounces per dozen.

A pen of Single Comb White Leghorns entered by Kauder's Pedigreed Leghorns holds first place in the test with a score of 997.15 points and a production of 944 eggs. The seven top places are held by that breed, second and third positions being occupied by pens entered by Babcock's Hatchery, second place with a score of 980.85 points and production of 1,030 eggs and third place with a score of 948.60 points and production of 975 eggs.

TOBACCO LEADS IN ACRE VALUE AMONG PENNA. FIELD CROPS

TOBACCO which is Pennsylvania's outstanding crop in value per acre, holding a large lead among the principal farm crops in this State, registered an increase in value of $13.67 in 1941 over the figure of 1940. The average value per acre of that crop is placed at $213.25 compared with $199.58 the year previously. Total production is placed at 52,518,000 pounds from 35,700 acres compared with 50,586,000 pounds from 33,700 acres in 1940, the yield having dropped from 1,501 pounds per acre to 1,471 pounds last year. The farm value of the crop is indicated to be $7,613,000 compared with $6,726,000 in 1940.

Potatoes showed the greatest increase in value per acre and stand second on the list among all Pennsylvania crops. The value last year went to $111.80 compared with a value of $78.75 in 1940. Total production last year was 20,540,000 from 158,000 acres compared with 21,000,000 bushels from 168,000 acres in 1940 giving an average yield per acre of 130 bushels in 1941 compared with 125 bushels the year previously. With an average value of 86 cents per bushel last year compared with an average of 63 cents per bushel in 1940, the farm value of the crop is placed at $17,664,000 in 1941 compared with a value of $13,230,000 in 1940.

Average values per acre for all the principal crops showed an increase last year over 1940 with rye at the bottom of the list in average return. The acre value of corn is placed at $34.36 compared with $29.26 in 1940; the acre value of wheat last year was $20.66 compared with $16.60 in 1940; the acre value of oats was $15.87 compared with $14.35 a year previously; the acre value of rye was $9.95 compared with $9.45 in 1940; the acre value of buckwheat was $12.20 compared with $9.99 a year earlier and the value per acre of hay was $15.17 compared with $14.31 in 1940.

Corn holds the lead in total farm value which is placed at $44,691,000 compared with $38,682,000 in 1940. The total production was 53,203,000 bushels from 1,282,000 acres compared with 50,236,000 bushels from 1,322,000 acres in 1940. The average yield rose from 38 bushels per acre in 1940 to 41.5 bushels per acre last year and the average price is placed at 84 cents per bushel compared with 77 cents a year earlier.

Hay holds second place in total farm value which is placed at $35,276,000 last year compared with $33,759,000 in 1940. Production was 2,868,000 tons from 2,325,000 acres compared with 3,410,000 tons from 2,359,000 acres in 1940, the price per ton having advanced from $9.90 to $12.30. The average yield last year was 1.23 tons compared with 1.45 tons a year earlier.

LIST PRODUCTS HELD IN PA. COLD STORAGE

IN Pennsylvania cold storage holdings are listed as follows: Butter, 6,523,000 pounds; American cheese, 5,221,000 pounds; eggs, 75,000 cases; frozen eggs, 5,190,000 pounds; poultry, 5,884,000 pounds; apples, 15,000 barrels, 43,000 boxes Western and 387,000 Eastern, and 941,000 baskets or a total of 1,416,000 bushels compared with 1,797,000 bushels on December 1, 1940.

LIVESTOCK ENTRIES HIT HIGH MARK AT PENNA. FARM SHOW

WHEN the doors of the famous Pennsylvania Farm Show were thrown open to the public on the morning of January 19 there was on exhibition the greatest array and highest number of livestock ever entered in the 25 years of that annual State agricultural event. Revised figures show the total entries of livestock in all classes and divisions to be 1,510 head.

That greater interest than ever before is being attached to the Farm Show this year by the farmers of this State is an indication of the position of importance in which the exhibition is placed as a source of aid and the better development of agriculture during the period of defense when agricultural production is actually classed as the first line of defense.

In commenting upon this increased interest as evidenced by the greater number of entries, Secretary of Agriculture, John H. Light, who is chairman of the Farm Show Commission stated that "It is most heartening and was to be expected that the farmers of Pennsylvania would look upon the Farm Show this year as being of greater importance and significance to him and agriculture in general than ever before because the farmer realizes that under conditions which exist at present he must apply more scientific and economical means of operation than ever before and yet bring still greater production. These things can be accomplished only by keeping fully informed of all developments in agriculture, in making a sound study of mechanization, in applying the best methods of cultivation and by no means least, to have only profitable cattle. Not alone is greater production necessary which is accomplished at the least expense by high producing cattle, but no farmer, particularly in this period of high costs can afford to keep low-producing cattle and continue his farming operations. The great increase of livestock entries at the show this year show conclusively that the Pennsylvania farmer realizes this important point more today than at any time in the past and that realization assures profitable and successful farming."

As in former year dairy cattle lead the list of entries with sheep holding second place. Among the breeds of dairy cattle the Holstein-Friesian hold the lead with Guernseys having second place. Hampshire breed also leads in the swine exhibits.

There are 105 horses of two breeds entered which is an increase of five over last year. Sheep entries number 357 and there are 109 beef cattle in addition to the 100 baby beeves entered by members of the 4-H clubs. There are 283 swine of all breeds compared with 265 last year and an increase from 368 last year to 389 for the 1942 show is shown in the dairy cattle entries.

Entries in the various classes are as follows: Dairy cattle—Ayrshire, 46; Brown Swiss, 45; Guernsey, 107; Holstein-Friesian, 129 and Jerseys, 62; Horses—Belgian, 64; Percherons, 41; sheep—Shropshire, 60; Hampshires, 68; Southdowns, 38; Oxfords, 10; Dorsets, 37; Cheviots, 51; B. Type Merino, 32; C. Type Merino, 40 and Rambouillet, 21. In addition to those entries there are 56 pens of three sheep each entered by 4-H Club members.

Beef cattle—Aberdeen-Angus, 31; Herefords, 36; Shorthorns, 42 and 99 baby beeves entered by the 4-H club members. Swine—Duroc Jersey, 36; Chester White, 48; Hampshire, 76; Spotted Poland China, 19; Poland China, 25; Berkshire, 53, and 26 head of all breeds entered by Vocational classes.

612 QUALIFY FOR 10-TON TOMATO CLUB

A TOTAL of 612 tomato growers in this State qualified for the Ten-Ton Tomato Club this year, according to announcements made at the annual meeting of that organization at the Pennsylvania Farm Show. To qualify it is necessary that 10 tons or more per acre be produced. Of the number qualifying, 12 growers produced 20 tons per acre. The tomatoes are grown for the fresh market as well as for canning.

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NEW RECORDS MADE IN SOME DIVISIONS OF PA. FARM SHOW

WITH approximately 12,000 entries in all departments competing for the $42,558 cash awards, the Pennsylvania Farm Show reached new high marks in a number of instances this year, which is the 26th year of the great exhibit. Farmers are finding the famous agricultural event a source of great value in the production of the agricultural defense program. Great interest is shown in the livestock entries which number about 1,300, the highest number ever entered in the show. This interest is stimulated by a more complete realization on the part of the farmer that under present high costs of production it is more essential than ever before that only the best and higher producing cattle can be maintained if losses are to be avoided.

The show presents the opportunity for the farmer to learn direct from the equipment sources the machinery situation which is more difficult by reason of the lowering of manufacture to 80 percent of last year's production because of metal priorities for defense. Guidance for the farmer regarding procuring equipment is particularly valuable in view of the shortage of farm labor.

War conditions had no effect on the interest of producers throughout the state in entering exhibits of the many varieties of Pennsylvania agricultural products. Entries in the many departments were equally as great as in other years, reaching higher numbers in some sections than in previous years and the quality of the exhibits is outstanding.

The great number and high standard of the exhibits in the home economics department combined with the unusual interest displayed by the thousands of visitors gave definite indications that under the present conditions which are bringing on more and more priorities and probable shortages more consideration is being given to economy and the conservation of materials about the home and putting them to valuable use.

Judges in all divisions have high praise for the quality of the exhibits all of which are confined to Pennsylvania producers excepting in the poultry department and of the more than 4,000 birds entered in that division, about 200 are from out of the state, those being entered from California, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Indiana, New York, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey and North Carolina, indicating the value of the show to the poultry industry throughout the country.

Greater interest than in previous years is reported in the annual meetings of the 35 state-wide farm organizations held during the week of the show, many of the subjects discussed relating to agriculture in defense.

CERTIFY 12,649 LBS. OF PA. TOMATO SEED

A TOTAL of 12,649 pounds of tomato seed of the 1941 crop has been certified by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to the report to Secretary John H. Light. The seed was produced from 185 acres by 33 growers and compares with the certification of 14,951 pounds from 208 acres produced by 28 growers in 1940. The number of acres entered last year for certification and inspected by the bureau agents was 201 compared with 219 acres in 1940.

Pennsylvania is among the leading states in the production of certified tomato seed and it is estimated that with reasonable care and under normal growing conditions the six and one-third tons certified in this State last year would be sufficient to plant 125,000 acres of tomatoes.

In 1930 when this work was started in Pennsylvania, 2,500 pounds of seed were certified. During the period since that time, seedsmen have shipped Pennsylvania certified tomato seed to many parts of the world. A considerable amount is shipped each year to the Union of South Africa, but the bulk of the crop goes to southern states for the production of green wrap tomatoes and for the growing of plants which are shipped all over the country, including Pennsylvania, for the growing of the tomato crop the following year.

LARGE INCREASE IN GRADING OF CORN

AN increase of 54 percent was registered last year over 1940 in the official State grading of corn for canning, according to compilations released by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture, which is pointed to as another indication of the strides being made in this State as the center of production of crops for canning. In 1940 licensed State graders inspected 13 million pounds of corn for canning. Last year the inspections covered the all-time high quantity of 21 million pounds.

The corn canneries are located in York, Lancaster, and Lycoming counties. The average grade of the corn was 91 percent U. S. No. 1 last year compared with 89 percent of that grade in 1940. The average price received by the growers was $12.74 a ton in 1941 compared with an average of $11.50 a ton the year previously.

Other canning crops which are now being purchased under State grading include apples, cherries, peas, beans and tomatoes.

GREATER SUPPLY OF SOME SEEDS IS SEEN

A NATION-WIDE survey just completed indicates that supplies of 33 out of 50 kinds of vegetable seeds are larger than those of last year, according to the Federal-State Crop report. The increases are attributed chiefly to larger acreages than in 1940, yields per acre of many kinds and carry-overs with certain exceptions being smaller than in 1940.

Commercial vegetable seed growers, in anticipation of a good demand for most vegetable seeds during the 1941-42 season, planned to increase their acreages greatly. But because of unfavorable weather, they were unable to plant all the intended acreage, and many acres planted resulted in partial or complete failures.

Two hundred thirty growers and dealers reported in the survey. They usually produce and distribute upwards of 90 percent of the total U. S. production of the seeds covered by the survey. Because threshing and cleaning operations were not completed for all varieties, it was necessary for many firms to furnish estimates instead of actual figures.

The 10 seeds showing the largest supplies, production plus carry-over, in relation to 1940 are: cress, spinach, romaine lettuce, smooth peas, mangelwurzel, radish, dill, broccoli, leek, and pole beans. On the other hand, decreases in supplies are most marked for Brussels sprouts, kale, kohlrabi, celery, Chinese cabbage, and beet.

Although production of 30 kinds of seeds turned out smaller than was expected last February and March, it appeared during September and October that the production of 42 kinds would exceed that of last year and that seven would fall below last year. Those with the largest increases in production over last year are: Chinese cabbage, leek, kohlrabi, cress, spinach, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, mustard, cauliflower, and eggplant. Decreases occur only with salsify, kale, chicory, dwarf and pole lima beans, turnip and non-sweetcorn.

Carry-over of vegetable seeds last June 30 was the smallest in three years or more. Stocks of only nine out of 50 kinds exceeded those of the preceding June. The decreases were most marked for leek, onion, hybrid sweetcorn, carrot, spinach, wrinkled peas, Swiss chard, Brussels sprouts, smooth peas and cauliflower.

LIST FIRST CASE OF TURKEY ERYSIPELAS

ALTHOUGH outbreaks of erysipelas in turkeys have been reported in New Jersey, Utah, Massachusetts, California, and Oregon since 1936, the first known case in this State was recently developed in the diagnosis of a specimen received at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Although the disease is evidently of rare occurrence in this State at the present time, the Department of Agriculture suggests vigilance on the part of turkey growers, as its spread is said to be rapid and disastrous should it gain a foothold. The disease is said to be the same as that which affects swine and which causes heavy losses each year to the swine industry.

1941 VALUE OF PA. FIELD, FRUIT CROPS SHOWS 15% ADVANCE

VALUE of the principal field and fruit crops in Pennsylvania in 1941 is estimated at $155,351,000 compared with $135,345,000 for 1940, representing an increase of nearly 15 percent according to the report of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. Combined production of field and fruit crops is two percent below 1940 but equal to the average of the past decade. Despite a two percent decline in the acreage of field crops harvested, production this year was two percent higher than a year ago mainly because of the good corn and tobacco crops. With exception of apples and cherries, production of fruits was under last year's records.

Reflecting the adverse effects of the dry season and the labor shortage in some parts of the State, the total hay crop was 16 percent less than the good crop of 1940 and somewhat below the ten-year average. Farm supplies of other feed crops however, are three percent above last year aided materially by the favorable outturn of corn and oats. Production of the cash crops of potatoes and tobacco were two percent above 1940 and also of much better quality.

Prices received by farmers for farm products are substantially higher than a year ago and market demand has been firm. This situation is further illustrated by the average value per acre of the various crops in 1941 which in each case exceeds 1940. These increases range from five percent in the case of rye to 42 percent for potatoes. The spread of War has not greatly changed the outlook, which is for a continuation of the conditions affecting domestic demand for farm products. The money incomes of consumers is expected to increase and prospective 1942 needs of the British for United States farm produce have been estimated at about double the 1941 shipments.

The good corn crop last year prevented a critical shortage of feed this Winter in many localities. A reduction of 40,000 acres in the total harvested acreage this year was offset by a 3.5 bushel increase in the average yield contributed largely by better cultural practices, the shift to higher yielding varieties and the increased use of hybrid corn.

Both the acreage and yield of wheat last year was smaller than in 1940. The yield was lowered by the hot and dry weather during May. This was the third consecutive year that the acres of wheat harvested has declined.

Barley production was somewhat below 1940 because of the reduction in acreage. Last year was a good year for both oats and buckwheat. Production of both crops was larger than the previous year. Rye production was much less than 1940 as a result of the reduced acreage harvested and a lower yield.

Production of potatoes was slightly under the 1940 crop. Yields and quality exceeded 1940 but acreage harvested was 10,000 acres short. Marketings to date are running about 15 percent greater than 1940 and because of the better quality may exceed the volume of sales in the last marketing season.

The year just ended was an excellent year for tobacco. The quality of the 1941 crop is exceptionally high. Yields have been good and stripping has begun on many farms.

The pasture season in 1941 was poor. Deficient precipitation retarded growth of grasses and meadows and both pastures and hay yields suffered. Secondary cuttings of clover and alfalfa were much improved however, but not sufficient to offset a reduced acreage and the light yields in mid-summer. New seedings for 1942 are spotted because of dry subsoils but favorable weather has helped to overcome late starts.

Early Spring frosts and subsequent dry weather caused some loss to fruit and prevented full sizing in many orchards, particularly apples. The bloom was exceptionally early and bright weather matured the fruit crops rapidly. Good apple and cherry crops were realized which brought better prices than in recent years. Grapes suffered the most reduction from storms, frosts and dry weather.

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CROPS FOR CANNING JUMP 50% IN VALUE DURING PAST YEAR

THE value of the four principal truck crops for commercial processing produced last year in Pennsylvania showed an increase of 50 percent above the value of the 1940 production, according to reports of Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The value of the crop last year is placed at $3,481,000 compared with $2,317,000 for 1940.

The total acreage of the crops was placed at 44,260 last year compared with 40,400 the year previously, representing an increase of about 10 percent, with all four crops showing larger acreages harvested than in 1940. Production of all the crops was considerably above averages with the yield per acre for all but snap-beans above the previous 10-year average.

Tomatoes hold a heavy lead over the other crops in the average value per acre, this value being placed at $121.94 last year, representing a large gain over 1940 when the figure was placed at $75.58. This compares with a previous 10-year average of $75.43. Decreases in value were registered in both green peas and snap-beans, the former holding second place in average acre value. That average is placed for last year at $57.38 compared with $66.86 in 1940 and the previous 10-year average of $50.52. The acre value of snap-beans was $50 in 1941 compared with $51.07 the year previous and $53.65 for the 10-year average. The total farm values of the crops is shown as follows: Tomatoes, $2,512,000; green peas, $482,000; sweet corn, $334,000, and snap-beans, $153,000.

The value of the 10 leading truck crops produced for market in Pennsylvania last year shows an increase of 38 percent above that of 1940, being placed at $5,356,000 compared with $3,888,000.

The total acreage of commercial truck crops for market excluding strawberries, was estimated to be 24,640 acres in 1941, compared with 24,770 acres in 1940, representing a decrease in acreage of about one-half of one percent. The acreages of asparagus, snap-beans, beets and onions were the same as 1940, with increased plantings of lettuce, spinach and tomatoes not quite large enough to offset the decreased acreages planted to cabbage, carrots and celery. The 1941 production estimates for the asparagus, snap-bean, beet, domestic cabbage, carrots, celery and late spinach crops were below those of a year earlier as these crops suffered considerably from the lack of adequate moisture and dry, hot weather which occurred during most of the growing season. Despite the decrease in acreage of both types of cabbage, yields per acre were above average and higher than a year previously due to better moisture conditions over the central and western parts of the State. The dry weather in the southeast was favorable for harvest of the tomato crop and the average yield per acre was the highest obtained since 1932. The 1941 celery crop was much below the ten-year average and the yield per acre was the lowest since 1935.

The highest average value per acre of all the crops is held by celery, which holds a large lead over any other crop. That value last year was placed at $625 compared with $459 in 1940 and a previous 10-year average of $433.92. Onions rank second in acre value, and show the greatest percentage of increase, the figure for 1941 being $402.78 compared with $194.44 the year previously and $183.33 for the previous 10-year average. The average values per acre of the other crops are as follows: Asparagus, $236.25; snap-beans, $144.12; beets, $233.32; domestic cabbage, $204.24; Danish cabbage, $180; carrots, $258.06; lettuce, $332.43; spinach, $224.76; strawberries, $224, and tomatoes, $197.92.

Erysipelas In Turkeys

Erysipelas in turkeys has features in common with the disease as observed in hogs. The affected birds appear weak and listless and they lose their appetite. On post mortem examination the most pronounced lesions exhibited are hemorrhages of various sizes in the different tissues and organs especially in the muscles. Strict sanitation and early removal of sick and dead birds are necessary control measures.

TEST 47,880 CATTLE FOR BANG'S DISEASE DURING ONE MONTH

DURING the month of December a total 2,514 herds, comprised of 47,880 cattle in this State were tested for Bang disease under supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to the report to Secretary John H. Light. Of that number 1,510 cattle in 628 herds were found to be affected bringing the percentage of infected herds to 24.9 percent and of cattle, 3.1 percent. Including the tests made in that month there are now 624,841 cattle under supervision in this State in the Bang disease control program.

For the cattle condemned the State paid during December $54,246 to which was added Federal Government indemnities amounting to $38,949, making a total of $93,195 having been paid to owners of Bang disease cattle.

During the month four permits were issued for calfhood vaccination under the program for Bang disease control which was inaugurated by the Department of Agriculture last March. Up to this time a total of 111 permits have been issued.

A total of 52,998 cattle were given tuberculin tests during the month of which only 172 cattle were found to be affected with the disease, indicating, according to Secretary Light, the great success of the program for the eradication of that disease. Cattle owners were paid State indemnities amounting to $5,530 and $2,957 in Federal Government indemnities for condemned cattle.

During the month 177,869 specimens for examination for disease were received at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry of which 130,502 specimens were those of chickens, examined for pullorum disease.

In the meat hygiene division of the department 51,168 ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations were made and 117 carcasses of animals condemned as unfit for consumption. Examination for sanitation was made of 659 meat establishments. A total of 3,603,382 pounds of meat and meat products were examined of which 2,783 pounds were condemned. Examination was also made of 2,161,377 pounds of animal organs of which 236,740 pounds were condemned.

SUGGEST USE, TEST OF AVAILABLE SEEDS

SUGGESTION is made by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture that in view of a possible shortage of some varieties of vegetable and flower seeds this year as a result of war conditions, that use be made in the home and on the farm of seeds which might have been procured from plants last season and of those which were purchased last year and not used.

Before planting, it is suggested, however, that germination tests be made, to show in what quantity they should be planted in order that a satisfactory crop might be procured. The tests can easily be made at the home by mixing the seeds thoroughly so that the test will develop the average of all the seeds. The seeds to be germinated can be spaced on a plate which has been covered with sterile canton flannel or unbleached muslin. By marking off the moderately wet cloth into three or four divisions, many varieties can be tested at one time. The plate or dish should be covered to prevent drying.

Another method commonly used for corn, beans and other large seeds is the ragdoll method which consists of placing the seeds between sterile cloth or several thicknesses of paper toweling which has been moistened. The cloth and seeds should then be loosely rolled and held in place by a rubber band. The seeds should be kept damp by sprinkling.

After a few days sprouts may be seen emerging from the seed. The number of days varies with the kind of seed. Carrots, for example, take 28 days for complete germination while only five days is required for lettuce. As the sprouts appear only the strong ones which have numerous root hairs should be counted as weak sprouts will not develop into strong plants.

By using 100 seeds, the number of healthy sprouts show the germination percentage. The test does not only develop the vitality of the seed but also the rate of sowing.

NEW PLAN ADOPTED FOR T B TESTING OF CATTLE IN PENNA.

A CHANGE in the plan under which cattle are tested for tuberculosis in this State has been announced by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, resulting from conditions caused by the national emergency. Under the revised plan areas in which retests of all cattle shows an infection of not more than two-tenths of one percent may remain in the modified accredited status for a period of six years from the date of remodification instead of being required to undergo tests each three years which has been the system followed up to this time.

The plan just adopted had the previous approval of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry but was not adopted in this State until conditions made it necessary.

In view of the low degree of infection of tuberculosis in cattle in a number of the counties in this State, it is felt that the extension from the three to the six year test period in those areas where infection is below the requirement, can be made without jeopardizing the favorable position attained by Pennsylvania toward the eradication of the disease. The continuous testing over the years since the program was inaugurated has demonstrated that tuberculosis is being gradually eliminated from the cattle of this State and is now at a point in many areas where the test period can be extended with safety.

In announcing the change Secretary Light stated that as a result of the war it has become increasingly difficult to obtain sufficient veterinarians to conduct tuberculin tests of the cattle under the modified accredited area plan because of the demand for their services in military operations. It is also difficult to obtain drivers of automobiles to assist and transport the veterinarians in conducting the tests, rationing of tires also creates a transportation problem, and the Federal Government has limited funds for expenditure in the payment of indemnities for condemned cattle. Under the tuberculin and Bang disease eradication plans the Federal and State governments share in the idemnity payments.

No reactors to the disease were found in tests made in 1940 and 1941 in Pike, Cameron, Clarion, Venango and Forest counties. In nine counties tests showed infection not exceeding two-tenths of one percent and those areas have been changed from the three to the six year testing plan. They are Huntingdon, Columbia, Potter, Indiana, Luzerne, Clinton, Cambria, Fulton, and Jefferson counties.

It is announced by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture that herd owners who do not wish to wait until the cattle in their county are again tuberculin tested under the area plan have the privilege of employing their veterinarian to test their cattle at their own expense. However, before any testing is conducted, it is necessary that the Bureau be advised of the name of the veterinarian they desire to employ so that authority may be granted by the Bureau.

In herds operating under the individual plan, which is at the owner's expense, for the control of Bang disease, it is suggested that it is advantageous to have the tuberculin test conducted at the same time that the test is made for Bang disease.

WHEAT STOCKS IN PA. BELOW THOSE OF '41

STOCKS of wheat in interior mills, elevators and warehouses in Pennsylvania on January 1 were placed at 1,110,000 bushels by surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. This amount compared with 1,150,000 bushels on the comparable date a year previously and with 1,308,000 bushels for the previous five-year average.

The situation in this State is the reverse of that existing on a country-wide basis. Stocks held in similar storages throughout the country on January 1 were reported to be 207,351,000 bushels, said to be the largest stocks on that date in that position in the eight years for which records have been kept. The figure shows an increase of 28 percent above the stocks reported on January 1, 1941. Those stocks combined with those held on farms, gives a total of wheat held of 581,171,000 bushels.

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PENNA. FARM LAYERS CONTINUE TO BREAK PRODUCTION RECORDS

LAYERS on Pennsylvania farms are continuing to consistently break records of egg production, thereby complying with the urgent requests for greatly increased quantities of eggs to meet the demands of the defense program. On January 1 the average rate of production was 35.9 eggs per 100 layers which marked up December as the ninth consecutive month to establish a new high record for each month. The number of layers during the month showed an increase, the figure being placed at 15,-950,000 compared with 15,372,000 in December, 1940, but there was also a higher rate of lay. The total production for the month was 161 million eggs compared with 149 million eggs in that month a year previously and the monthly number of eggs per layer was 10.1 compared with 9.7 eggs in December, 1940.

The average price per dozen received by the farmer in Pennsylvania during December was 36.9 cents compared with 28.9 cents in that month a year earlier. The average cost of 100 pounds of laying mash was $2.69 compared with $2.17 and the average cost of 100 pounds of scratch feed was $2.03 compared with $1.71. In spite of increased costs of feed, the return from eggs was more favorable to the farmer in that it required 77 eggs during last December to purchase 100 pounds of feed compared with 82 eggs in that month a year previously.

National egg production in December was also a record for the month both in rate of lay per bird and in total production of eggs. Total production was 15 percent larger than in December, 1940, and 48 percent larger than the 10-year December average. Production in each of the last four months has exceeded all previous high levels for the month.

The rate of lay in December set a new record high and was eight percent larger than in December, 1940, and 40 percent above the 10-year average. The annual rate of lay per average layer on hand during 1941 was five percent higher than in 1940 and three percent higher than the previous record high in 1938. The heavy rate of lay has continued into January, the daily rate shown by sample farm flocks on January 1 was nine percent above a year ago, the highest January 1 rate of record.

Production of baby chicks by commercial hatcheries throughout the country in December was a record for the month. The estimated number of chicks was 52 percent larger than the previous record output of December, 1940. For the year, hatchings were the largest on record for the hatchery industry. Purchases of eggs by the United States Government under the Lend-Lease Act during 1942 are expected to be more than twice as large as purchases made in 1941. The favorable egg prices in prospect will probably result in a strong demand for chicks for egg laying purposes during the spring months of 1942. Hatcheries reported orders on hand January 1 to be 54 percent larger than on the same date last year.

INSPECTORS CHECK POTATO LABELING

STRICT compliance with the potato marketing law is required in every instance, Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture again warned as the result of a report that the recent improved demand for potatoes indicates a few short cuts being taken in some instances in properly labeling the actual grades contained in closed packages. Department inspectors are checking potato grades and labels in all markets and production centers of the State.

The great majority of growers and dealers observe the law to the letter, Secretary Light stated but occasionally violations occur which defeat the purposes of the law which are for the protection of the industry and the consuming public.

Not Much Cabbage Stored

Reports from all sections of the State indicate that there is little cabbage in storage this year. The small quantities in farm storage are not keeping well. At least 80 to 90 percent of the Danish crop in the Erie County area has moved to market.

PRECAUTION AGAINST DISEASE IS URGED

EXTRA precaution against disease in poultry is urged upon poultrymen by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, particularly during the present emergency when greater production is being urged under the defense program which will bring a greater drain upon the vitality of the laying birds. It is pointed out that the importance of the disease problem in poultry can be realized from the fact that of all domesticated animals, poultry suffers the greatest losses from disease. It is estimated that the average annual mortality in poultry flocks is 25 percent, a loss which would be ruinous to any other livestock enterprise.

This high poultry mortality rate is said to be due largely to the intensive methods of poultry production now generally in practice and also because of the marked increase in egg production which is now expected from the birds. It is further suggested that it is evident that breeding and feeding for production favor the development of disease by placing a far greater strain on the constitution of the bird than nature intended it should bear. A hen laying 300 eggs a year produces approximately eight times its own weight in eggs in a single year, which is perhaps 15 times as much as it would produce had it not been subject to domestication.

Sanitation and proper feeding are placed on the top of the list of disease control measures.

DECREASE SHOWN IN PA. CATTLE ON FEED '41 SHIPMENTS DOWN

IN Pennsylvania the number of cattle on feed at the beginning of 1942 was smaller than at the beginning of 1941, according to surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Movement of feeder cattle into the State through public stockyards the first eleven months of 1941 was 24 percent less than the same period in 1940. Direct shipments were also less than in 1940 but the decline was not as sharp. Contributing to the decline in feeder cattle has been the shortage of labor, the dry season and scant water supply in some localities, and the higher price of profitable feeders. There is also some tendency indicated to feed out to heavier weights and to market somewhat earlier than a year ago.

The total number of cattle on feed for the country as a whole on January 1, 1942, was also slightly below the same date last year. In the Corn Belt States there was a three percent decline in numbers on feed between the two first-of-the-year dates while for the Western States the numbers were about equal to the corresponding date in 1941.

Reports from Corn Belt cattle feeders and records of receipts at leading markets since January 1 indicate an unusually large proportion of cattle on feed January 1 that were to be marketed in January and February. The increased proportion intended for January-February marketings was offset by a rather sharp decrease in the proportion to be marketed after April, with the proportions for March and April about the same as last year. If these intentions are carried out, supplies of fed cattle will continue larger than last year until about March 1 and then will tend to fall off relative to last year and relative to the January and February volume of this year.

Reports from cattle feeders show smaller proportions of feeder calves and of light weight steers and a larger proportion of heavy feeders in the cattle on feed January 1 this year than were reported a year ago. This distribution is also shown by records of shipments of stockers and feeders from four leading markets during the last half of 1941. The total from these markets was down about 14 percent but the number of steers over 800 pounds was about the same, while light steers and feeder calves were down sharply.

During the year of 1941, there was slaughtered under Federal meat inspection 10,945,906 head of cattle which was 12 percent larger than the previous year. Calf slaughter of 5,461,042 head was up two percent over last year, and sheep and lambs equaling 18,124,531 head exceeded that of the previous year by four percent.

MILK PRODUCTION ON PENNA. FARMS BREAKS PREVIOUS RECORDS

MILK production on farms in Pennsylvania established a new high record in December, the second consecutive month in which that feat was performed, according to the Federal-State Crop reports released by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. Production averaged 16.8 pounds of milk per cow in the reported herds. Pennsylvania's output of creamery butter in November was 1,030,000 pounds, which was 12 percent above November a year earlier and 39 percent higher than the November average over the past few years. This increased production, it is pointed out, places this State in a high position in assisting to meet the demands of the defense program.

According to the reports feed costs climbed between two and three percent higher during December, but in spite of the increase, dairymen reporting on January 1 averaged 7.4 pounds of grain and concentrates fed per cow in the herd, which was one of the highest figures in the 11 years of record.

Nation-wide milk production on farms during December is estimated at nearly 8.6 billion pounds, or six percent higher than in December, 1940, and represents a continuation of the unusually high level of production. The total milk production for the year 1941, was more than 116½ billion pounds, five percent higher than in 1940. On a per capita basis, this is the highest output for the 18-year period in which records are available, and nearly nine percent above the 1935-39 average. In the important dairy belt that extends from Minnesota and Iowa eastward to New England, every State showed record or near-record milk production per cow for January 1.

The report states that as the Nation's war effort increases the records of dairy production, stocks, and prices show unprecedented conditions, though they do not reveal what lies ahead. The shifts of population that have begun have already resulted in sharp regional changes in the demand for market milk. Increased employment at high wages and prospective increases in taxes will shift purchasing power between income classes and producing groups and cause unpredictable changes in the demand for individual dairy products. Changes in demand are taking place much more rapidly than changes in supplies.

CATTLE TAG CHANGE RESULTS IN FINE

A DAIRY farmer in Bradford County was recently convicted of transferring ear tags on cattle in his herd on evidence presented by agents of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. He was required to pay a fine and costs of the prosecution. The transfer of the tags was detected by the bureau agents while making Bang disease retests of the herd.

Warning has been issued by the department that close surveillance is being kept of all records and that any violation of the law involving the tampering with ear tagged disease tested cattle will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

In commenting upon this practice, Secretary John H. Light stated that "It is the effort of the Department of Agriculture to eradicate disease in cattle both from a public health point of view and as a means of saving vast sums of money for the farmer in losses which are incurred through diseased cattle. This is being done according to a well-defined program and at great public expense. In this effort the department has the wholehearted support of the vast majority of the farmers of this State but it takes only one violator to cause widespread damage and a breakdown of the work accomplished in this area. Under the system of records maintained by the Department it is a difficult matter for the violation to go undetected over a long period of time and the violator soon finds that his effort to gain at the expense of the State is a costly one."

Horses Decrease

The number of horses and colts on Pennsylvania farms decreased from 349,-000 in 1929 to 285,000 in 1939, according to figures of the Department of Agriculture.

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FAIR PRICE, QUALITY SHOULD BE GUIDE IN BUYING BABY CHICKS

A FAIR price for baby chicks based on quality represents economy in the long run, the State Department of Agriculture's poultry section comments in a seasonal report on the Pennsylvania poultry situation.

The report lists the quality factors which a buyer looks for in baby chicks. Viability comes first because, says the report: "Unless he gets chicks which can be raised to maturity a farmer won't be in the poultry business long." Continuing, the report says both breeders and commercial hatcherymen have done much to reduce chick mortality by having their breeding flocks officially tested by the State Department of Agriculture under the program to eliminate Pullorum disease. Some commercial poultrymen, it has pointed out, guarantee 95 percent viability among their chicks for the first two weeks, and their replacements are negligible because "they are following an approved blood-testing and hatchery hygiene program." The report continues:

"Breeding is the next most important consideration because profits are still impossible in the poultry business unless the birds lay after they reach maturity. Possibly the best illustration of the effect of breeding is a study of the results of any one of the egg-laying contests in the country. Here you will find 100 pens of 5 birds each housed under identical conditions, fed identically the same rations and managed by the same individuals yet some pens average only 150 eggs per bird while other pens will average towards of 300 eggs per bird."

The importance of the effect of high egg production on profits, it is pointed out, is based on the fact that feed consumption does not increase proportionately with egg production. One hundred birds which consume around 20 pounds of feed a day when they are in 20 percent production will not consume 40 pounds when they are laying 40 percent or 60 pounds when they are laying at the rate of 60 percent production. In practice the flock in 40 percent production will consume around 22 to 25 pounds of feed per day and the birds in 60 percent production will consume more nearly 24 to 28 pounds of feed per 100 birds per day. So as egg production goes up the amount of feed required to produce a dozen of eggs goes down and thus the profits increase.

ADVISE DOG OWNERS TO OBTAIN LICENSES

A WARNING to dog owners who have not yet procured the 1942 licenses for their dogs has been issued by the Division of Dog Law Enforcement of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The 1941 licenses expired January 15. New licenses are procurable at the offices of the county treasurers, or application may be made through any justice of the peace, alderman, magistrate or notary public in the district in which the dog owner resides. All dogs six months of age or older must be licensed.

Under the law the license tag must be attached to a collar which must be worn at all times by the dog and the tags are not transferable from one animal to another. It is also pointed out that the tag does not absolve the owner of the dog from liability in the event it causes damage to property and it is therefore necessary that all dogs be kept under proper control. Field agents of the department are constantly checking dogs in their areas and violators of the dog laws are subject to a fine and the costs of prosecution.

SCW LEGHORNS HOLD FIRST THREE PLACES

IN THE 18th week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test conducted by the Department of Agriculture, average egg production was placed at 65.25 percent. The average number of eggs per bird was 82.22, bringing the total production to 90.849. The number of competing birds was 1,105.

Pens of single comb white leghorns held positions one, two and three among the 10 high pens for the test to date. First place is held by Babcock's Hatchery with a credit of 1,372.90 points and 1,417 eggs; second place is held by Kauder's Pedigree Leghorns, credited with 1,364 points and 1,281 eggs, and third place is held by J. A. Hanson, his pen credited with 1,346.200 points and 1,297 eggs.

HORSE, MULE PRICES BELOW '41 FIGURES

WHETHER the problem presented in transportation by the virtual elimination of the automobile and tire supply is responsible or whether the influence comes from the general tendency of price increases cannot be determined, but there is recorded an upward trend in the average prices of horses and mules in this State, according to compilations of the Department of Agriculture. The latest available figures show that the price of horses stands at an average of $108 compared with $102 a month previously and the average price for mules is $115 compared with $108 a month earlier.

However, this tendency has not yet reached a highly favorable figure, nor does it indicate that the horse market is being greatly influenced by the present emergency in view of the fact that the latest prevailing prices were below those which prevailed a year earlier. At that time the average price for horses was $112 and that for mules $117. They are the only two instances in farm products in which a decrease in the average price is shown.

MORE PRECAUTION IS URGED TO PREVENT HOG CHOLERA LOSSES

WITH indications of a considerable increase this year in the Pennsylvania pig crop, the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture urges upon all farmers the necessity of increased efforts against hog cholera which is referred to as the "Bubonic Plague" of the swine industry. Agents of the department are constantly at work to keep the disease at a minimum and it is pointed out that in these efforts definite cooperation must be given by all persons raising swine if success shall be attained. This is particularly true in periods of increased pig production, it is pointed out.

The disease is one of the principal causes of heavy loss to the swine industry and without proper care can develop into an outbreak which may be disastrous. As the result of constant vigilance on the part of department agents and the program of vaccination and quarantine, the number of cases in this State have been held at a steady level over the past few years.

It is stated that the disease causes a loss annually on the farms of this country of from 20 to 30 million dollars. It is recalled that a terrific outbreak occurred in 1895 which swept over the entire country, causing the death of one in 10 of the total hog population. Again in 1913, a short time after government scientists had discovered the cause of the disease and perfected a preventive serum, another disastrous outbreak struck the country and caused 105 hog casualties of each 1,000 swine. The last epidemic occurred in 1926 when the toll was 60 head of each 1,000. Modern vaccination has reduced the losses over the past 10 years to an average of about 35 head of each 1,000 swine.

To guard against the disease, farmers are urged to maintain swine on sanitary premises; not to buy sick hogs or cheap animals unless there is good reasons for the owner to sacrifice them; not to go near a premise where there are sick hogs, or allow anyone handling sick hogs access to pens and lots; not to purchase pigs at public sales or stock yards unless they have been vaccinated; not to permit breeding stock to leave the premises and be returned without taking the precaution of keeping those animals in isolation for a least two weeks; not to feed uncooked garbage, pork scraps or slaughter house refuse to unvaccinated swine.

Cabbage Stocks Down

The indicated stocks of Danish type cabbage in Pennsylvania on January 1, were estimated at 700 tons compared with 1,500 tons on the same date a year ago. Much of this stock has already been moved, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture.

ADVANCE IN INCOME TO FARMER LARGELY OFFSET BY EXPENSE

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products increased one point during the month ended January 15, according to the survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture, bringing the index for all farm products to 153, figured from the 1910-14 base of 100, compared with 124 on the comparable date a year ago. At the same time an increase of three points was registered for the month, the figure rising from 143 to 145 in the prices the farmer must pay for the things he buys. This figure compares with 123 a year earlier.

This advance has placed the purchasing power of the farmer at 105, a decrease of one point for the month, which is only four points above the figure which prevailed a year earlier.

The greatest advance for the month was recorded in fruits which rose from an index of 1130 to 143 and the largest decrease was registered in chickens and eggs, which slumped from 149 to 138. Meat products rose from 146 to 157; dairy products remained stationary at 173, and grains went from 108 to 117.

The latest recorded prices for Pennsylvania products with comparisons, follow:

		Jan. 15, 1941	Jan. 15, 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$ .90	$ 1.15
Corn	Bu.	.71	.86
Oats	Bu.	.41	.54
Barley	Bu.	.59	.72
Rye	Bu.	.66	.80
Buckwheat	Bu.	.54	.65
Potatoes	Bu.	.65	1.00
Apples	Bu.	.85	1.15
Hay	Ton	9.90	12.90
Hogs	Cwt.	7.40	11.30
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	8.30	9.80
Veal Calves	Cwt.	11.20	13.40
Sheep	Cwt.	3.65	5.30
Lambs	Cwt.	8.70	10.90
Milk Cows	Head	83.00	100.00
Horses	Head	112.00	108.00
Mules	Head	117.00	115.00
Chickens	Lb.	.165	.198
Turkeys	Lb.	.22	.27
Milk, wholesale	Cwt.	2.25	2.70
Milk, retail	Qt.	.116	.125
Butter	Lb.	.32	.37
Butterfat	Lb.	.32	.36
Eggs	Doz.	.234	.344
Wool	Lb.	.37	.42

A six-point rise in the index prices received by farmers in the United States and a three-point rise in the index of prices paid brought the average of farm product prices on January 15 to 102 percent of parity. Though production and marketings of farm products continue at high levels, increased demand for agricultural commodities raised the mid-January index of prices received to 149 percent of the 1909-14 base—45 points above a year ago and the highest point reached since October, 1929. At 146 percent of the 1910-14 level, the preliminary mid-January index of prices paid was 23 points higher than a year earlier and the highest since August, 1930. The rise in farm product prices during the past year has about paralleled the rise in incomes of industrial workers, the index for which in December was 185 percent of the 1935-39 average, or 50 points greater than a year earlier. For the month ended January 15, prices received by farmers for grains advanced seven points, meat animals six, and fruits four points. The group average for dairy products showed no change from mid-December, while poultry products registered a six-point decline. Compared with a year ago, trucks crops were up 80 points; grains 35; fruit 24; chickens and eggs 47 points; meat animals 38; and dairy products 27 points.

PA. RANKS FIRST IN TOBACCO, BUCKWHEAT

PENNSYLVANIA holds first place in the production of cigar leaf tobacco and buckwheat among the States of this country in which those products are grown. Cigar leaf tobacco is grown in nine States and buckwheat is grown in 22 States.

Last year the tobacco acreage in this State was 35,700 acres which yielded 52,518,000 pounds which had a value of $7,613,000. The average yield per acre was 147 pounds which was the second greatest among the tobacco producing States. The buckwheat acreage totaled 112,000 acres, yielding 2,240,000 bu., or an average of 20 bushels per acre.

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REAL EFFORT NOTED TOWARD IMPROVING OATS CROP IN PENNA.

THAT interest in improving the oats crop in this State is developing greatly among Pennsylvania farmers is shown by the 1941 seed certification records of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture which establish an all-time high record. During the past year 957 acres of oats were entered for inspection of which a total of 673 acres were certified and 284 acres rejected. This compares with 412 acres certified and 174 acres rejected in 1940 and only 166 acres certified in 1939. The percentage of rejections was greater last year which is attributed to heavy rains having occurred at harvest time in certain areas which delayed the harvest and resulted in the development of mould which increased in the bin after threshing, causing germination to go below the certification standard of 90 percent. The percentage of rejections for disease was below other years and rejections for noxious weeds and mixtures with other grains were also low.

With the increase in growing oats under inspection for seed certification has also come a marked increase in the demand from Pennsylvania farmers for certified seed indicating a marked trend toward the effort to produce better crops. Present indications are that there will not be sufficient certified seed to supply the demand. It is also noteworthy that with the advanced development has also come a great improvement in varieties, oats having been produced last year in Clearfield and Bradford counties and particularly in Potter County which averaged from six to eight pounds above the required 32 pounds to the bushel. Improvement has also been noted in yields, a crop in Jefferson county having averaged [illegible] bushels to the acre. The average State yield for certified oats was 45.5 bushels compared with 29 bushels in 1940. The total oats acreage in this State last year was 876,000 acres and the average yield for all oats was 34.5 bushels to the acre. This compares with 904,000 acres in 1940 and an average yield of 29 bushels.

The three varieties most in demand at the present time are Patterson, Cornellian and the new variety developed by Pennsylvania State College which is designated as 90A-27 which is three to four days earlier than the Patterson.

In commenting upon the favorable trend toward certified seed, Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture stated: "It is a most gratifying trend and one which proves that farmers are constantly realizing the necessity of improvement in agriculture. Good seed is the most important requirement in crop production. No matter how well the soil may be prepared or how much fertilizer is used, the use of poor seed results only in a poor crop. Poor seed, therefore is the most costly thing to use. Certified seed is the nearest approach to assurance of a successful crop which can be had."

DECREASE SHOWN IN HOGS SLAUGHTERED

THE total slaughter of hogs under Federal inspection for 1941 equalled 6,519,757 head as compared with the 50,997,861 head for 1940, showing a decline of eight percent. This year's slaughter of hogs was 19 percent over the five-year average, while cattle was up nine percent and sheep and lambs four percent, but slaughter of calves declined four percent.

MORE VEGETABLES MARKETED IN JAN.

OUT-OF-STORAGE movement of beets, carrots, parsnips, turnips and rutabagas to market during January was higher than a year earlier, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. In the Bucks-Philadelphia area about 35 percent of the stored carrot crop is left for marketing during the early Spring months.

Decrease in Onion Stocks

The onion stocks in hands of growers in Pennsylvania on January 1 were estimated to be 1,000 sacks of 100 pounds each compared with 3,000 sacks a year ago according to reports of the Department of Agriculture.

PA. FARM WAGES UP 26 PERCENT IN YEAR

FARM wage rates in Pennsylvania showed an average increase of about 26 percent at the beginning of this year compared with those which prevailed a year earlier according to reports to the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced. Although it is the season when the need for farm labor is probably at the lowest ebb, the supply was reported to be only 60 percent of normal, which compares with 82 percent a year earlier. Demand for labor was 91 percent of normal compared with 88 percent at the beginning of 1941, which placed the supply at 66 percent of the demand compared with 93 percent a year earlier.

At the beginning of this year average farm labor wages per month with board were placed at $35.25 compared with $27 a year earlier and without board at $53 compared with $42.75. The average day rate with board was $2.15 compared with $1.70 and without board, $2.80 compared with $2.30.

The general average of farm wage rates for the United States was sharply higher than a year earlier, the index being placed at 166 percent of the 1910-14 average compared with 124 percent at the beginning of 1941 which made the index the highest since April 1930. The greatest advance was made in those areas where the competition with industries engaged in production of war materials is greatest.

In comparison with a year ago the number of family workers was slightly lower, but the number of hired workers increased.

MORE PA. POTATOES LISTED FOR MARKET

ALTHOUGH the 1941 potato production in Pennsylvania is about a half million bushels, or two percent smaller than the 1940 output, reports of the Department of Agriculture indicate the quantity for sale in the 1941-1942 marketing season to be two percent more than the previous marketing period. Among the reasons for this condition are said to be the better quality and a decline of 30 percent in potatoes fed to livestock or lost through decay in shrinkage. A notable contributing factor, however, is that growers indicate a decline of seven percent in their home consumption and an increase of two percent in potatoes saved for seed on the farms where they were grown.

Pennsylvania local farm prices received by farmers averaged 90 cents a bushel toward the end of the year and throughout the last quarter of 1941 were 20 to 35 cents higher than the corresponding period a year earlier, reflecting stronger consumer demand. Indicated sales to January 1 were about three percent greater than in 1940 and carlot shipments to January 17 were seven cars greater than for the same period in 1941.

Stocks of potatoes in the hands of growers and local buyers or dealers throughout the country and available for sale on January 1 were estimated to be six percent smaller than holdings a year earlier and about one percent larger than the 10-year average. The total was placed at 104,633,000 bushels.

LIVESTOCK MARKETS SHOW BIG DECLINE

REPORTS of the Department of Agriculture show a decline from 80 to 50 in the number of Community Livestock Sales conducted in this State during the past year. About a year ago this form of livestock marketing was being developed at a rapid pace resulting in such strong competition as to cause many of them to discontinue.

All sales are conducted under regulation of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture as a measure to prevent the possible spreading of disease in livestock and as a protective measure to the public in preventing diseased cattle from being slaughtered for consumption. A veterinarian approved by the Bureau is stationed at each sale who checks the health status of all animals purchased for additions to herds as well as those intended for consumption. He is also required to vaccinate all stocker hogs and pigs before they leave the sale and to supervise the dipping of all sheep sold as stockers.

TOMATO INSPECTION BREAKS ALL RECORDS YIELDS, QUALITY UP

THE 1941 season hung up a new record for the canning of tomatoes and tomato products in Pennsylvania, according to the reports of the Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Division of the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture. Nearly 150 million pounds of tomatoes were inspected during the past year, which was an increase of nearly 50 percent over the amount inspected the previous year.

Not only was a new record established in the quantity of tomatoes inspected, but the quality of the crop was high, the average for the State being 68 percent of U. S. No. 1's, and the average yield per acre, listed at 7.3 tons per acre, nearly equalled the previous high of 7.4 tons which was established in 1939. The average price per ton received by the grower was $16.70 which was an all-time high, the previous high price having been paid in 1930. That price was $15.40 per ton.

The extent of the expansion of tomato growing in this State is seen in the records which show that in 1927 only 4,000 acres were planted to that crop compared with 20,600, the highest on record, last year, which is an increase of more than 400 percent in 14 years. An increase of 25 per cent over last year is being requested by the Federal department to meet what are stated to be the war needs.

As the tomato industry expanded there was a corresponding increase in the use of the inspection service and as that service became more widespread the quality of the crop has shown consistent improvement from the 41 percent U. S. No. 1's procured from the 1928 crop.

There exists considerable uncertainty on the part of the farmer regarding increased acreage this year in view of the farm labor situation. Farmers of this State are desirous of meeting the requests for increased acreage but facing increased costs of plants, fertilizer and cultivation, are reluctant to take on greatly added production without seeing some possibility that labor will be available to harvest the crop.

POINT TO VALUE OF SANITARY METHODS

THE importance to stockmen and farmers of thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting their premises as practical measures of disease prevention is pointed to by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. It is suggested that there has been no time in the history of the country when animal conservation was as important as during the present period, and that the necessity, therefore, for maintaining livestock and poultry in an excellent state of health is greater than ever before and can be attained by good herd and flock management, which includes practical measures of sanitation and disinfection.

Many organisms, germs and vegetable growths are always present and under favorable conditions multiply at a tremendous rate causing disease. Disinfectants will not destroy the germs with which they do not come in contact, making it necessary that the premises be thoroughly cleaned before they are disinfected.

The following "musts" are given to properly prepare premises for disinfecting: Sweep the ceilings, walls and floors of all stables; remove decayed woodwork and loose boards, particularly from the floors; remove dried accumulations about the mangers, floors and drains; thoroughly clean the floors by removing all wet and dry material; clean the yard and remove the refuse to the field where it should be plowed under, or if permitted to remain on the surface, it should be spread lightly. Cattle, swine or poultry should not have access to the field until after the germs might have been killed by exposure to the sunlight. Scrub the mangers, feed boxes, stalls and partitions with hot water containing strong soap, lye or washing soda.

Common disinfectants which may be used are: A two percent solution of cresol or one quart of cresol to 50 quarts of water; compound solution of cresol two or three percent solution or one pint solution to four gallons of water, or chloric of lime, six ounces to each gallon of water.

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HONEY SUGGESTED AS SUGAR SUBSTITUTE FOR ALL PURPOSES

USE of honey as a substitute for sugar, the rationing of which is now in force as a war measure, is suggested by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. It is stated that honey has qualities which make its use satisfactory wherever sugar is required. It is the only natural sweet, it does not require boiling or processing, being ready for use as it is taken from the bees. It is equally as sweet as sugar, is more easily digested and is claimed to furnish slightly more energy. While it contains a small amount of water, it is still sufficiently concentrated to dehydrate and destroy organisms harmful to the human body and can be used to advantage in feeding children and invalids.

The Bureau states that there is sufficient equipment already in this State to increase the present annual output of about four million pounds of honey annually to three times that amount. With the purchase of additional hives and package bees, the crop could be increased to a much greater amount.

While prices of honey, it is said, are normally somewhat higher than sugar, the sweet sold for a lower price than sugar during the first World War. If purchased in 60 pound cans or large lots, the price compares favorably with the present price of sugar, it is stated.

In pointing out the advantages of honey, the Bureau states that "none of the other sugars can boast of such a variety of natural flavors nor is any sweet more healthful to use. Several generations ago honey was the principal sweet available in the temperate zone.

When used in baking honey has the advantage over other sugars in preserving moisture in bread and cakes and many tons are used by bakers for this purpose alone. When compared to other sweets, honey has a great variety of uses.

"Mention has been made of these uses on the table, in the comb, extracted from the comb and granulated or creamed—all as a spread for bread, toast, hot cakes or muffins. Besides these uses tons of honey are used annually by bakers, confectioners and bottlers in the manufacture of bread, cakes, candy and soft drinks. It is suggested that a supply of extracted honey be included in the kitchen food supply for use in cooking. Already many housewives are finding new recipes for its use in the home.

"Honey can be purchased in five, ten or sixty pound cans. It should be kept in a warm, dry place where it will stay liquid for a long time. Should it become crystallized, warm it in a kettle of water until the crystals are dissolved and do not heat over 160 degree as this would tend to drive off the aroma or change the flavor. Honey can also be purchased in the creamed or granulated form. This is especially desirable as a spread for children as it is smooth and mild in flavor and does not run like liquid honey. Extracted honey can be used in grape fruit, hot and cold breakfast foods and in whipping cream and salads. It can be used in preparing canned vegetables, custard puddings, and pies. Care should be exercised when substituing honey for sugar and recipes especially prepared for the use of honey should be used.

PLUM CROP IN PENNA. SHOWS BIG INCREASE

NEARLY three-quarters of a million pounds of plums were inspected for market last year by the Inspection Service of the Department of Agriculture, indicating the extent to which this fruit is gaining in production in this State. Rather extensive young plantings, mostly in Erie and Franklin counties are now beginning to yield appreciable amounts of fruit and indicate a considerable further increase in the near future.

The variety planted is commonly known as the Italian prune plum, which is dark blue in color. A large portion of the crop is sold as fresh fruit, some is frozen and the balance is canned.

TEST 42,529 CATTLE FOR BANG DISEASE

DURING the month of January 42,529 blood samples of cattle were tested for Bang disease at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to reports to Secretary John H. Light. Of that number 816 cattle were shown to be affected by the disease. During the month a total of $41,253 was paid from the State appropriation for condemned cattle in addition to Federal indemnities amounting to $36,932.

The number of tuberculin tests of cattle during the month was reported to be 46,377 of which 155 were infected. Indemnities paid from State funds during the month for tuberculin condemned cattle amounted to $6,490 and Federal indemnities totaled $4,166.

Examination of 109,753 specimens was made at the bureau laboratory during the month to determine the existence of disease in cattle and poultry. Examinations of chickens and blood samples of chickens led the list with a total of 62,674, most of the tests having been made for pullorum disease.

Included in the tests were examinations of brains of 17 animals suspected of rabies, four of which were found to be positive. It was reported that five persons had been bitten or exposed to the rabid dogs. The cases were in Allegheny, Fayette, Lawrence, and Washington counties. A total of 6,658 swine on 96 premises were vaccinated during the month against hog cholera. One premise was quarantined because of the presence of the disease.

PA. EGG PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO SHOW HEAVY INCREASES

JANUARY marked the tenth consecutive month during which a new high monthly record for egg production was registered by layers on Pennsylvania farms, according to the reports issued by the Department of Agriculture. The production was in line with the national trend with both January production and the number of layers being 11 percent larger than during January a year ago. The average rate of lay for the State on February 1 was 38.8 eggs per hundred layers. The number of layers was placed at 16,897,000 for January compared with 15,480,000 in that month a year earlier. The eggs produced totaled 196 million compared with 178 million during January, 1941 and the monthly number of eggs per layer was 11.6 compared with 11.5.

That further expansion is indicated is seen in the survey which shows intentions of farmers to purchase 14 percent more baby chicks this year than they purchased during 1941. Intentions throughout the country indicate a 12 percent increase. Some difference, however, between intentions and actual purchases is to be expected, it is stated, the extent of the increase depending upon egg prices during the hatching season and upon feed costs.

The farms of the nation produced 281 million dozen eggs last month which was a record high for January, making it the fifth consecutive month in which a new high production record for the country at large was established. The number of layers was two percent below the January record of 1928.

During the last three weeks of January prices of laying mash and scratch feed registered further sharp increases averaging about five percent. Recent release of government stocks of wheat and corn for feeding purposes checked somewhat the gains in feed prices. Egg prices at this season of increasing receipts usually decline sharply but the decrease this year was not as great as customarily expected. In terms of the number of eggs necessary to equal in value the purchase price of 100 pounds of feed it required 84 eggs to equal 100 pounds of feed during January, an increase of seven over December, but a dozen less than January, 1941, when egg prices were much lower.

The Government stepped up purchases of shell eggs in January, averaging slightly over 37,500 cases each week, compared with a weekly average in December of about 16,000 cases. Purchases during January were approximately two percent of the total United States January production.

LABORATORY TESTING IS LARGE OPERATION

SOME idea of the extent of operations at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry, of the Department of Agriculture which last year examined 1,206,532 specimens for disease in poultry and livestock, can be had from following the course of procedure and operations necessary in connection with the test of the 534,166 blood specimens received to have the serum tested for Bang disease in cattle.

Specimens are received each day from a comparatively large number of persons from all parts of the State. Many of these packages are identical in appearance and all must be properly checked for the name of the sender and identified by numbers to correspond with the number entered in the daily entry record book and a work record sheet which is given the same number. The same laboratory specimen number for the samples received from an owner is used throughout all the records, procedures and tests in connection with the samples from that owner. All steps in connection with the tests are arranged in systematic order and equipment used is uniform which helps to overcome the possibility of errors which otherwise might occur.

In order to make it possible to test 534,000 blood samples for Bang disease during the year it was necessary that at least that number of test tubes were washed, sterilized, labeled, corked, packed and shipped to a large number of veterinarians who collected the samples. These were later returned to the laboratory containing blood specimens from the cattle of 50,000, or more, owners, meaning that 50,000 book entries were made, 50,000 work sheets prepared, 534,000 results recorded on 50,000 work sheets and five times this number on the five copies of the report and all five copies of the reports checked with each other and the 50,000 work sheets, the five copies of the 50,000 reports separated, data taken from the 50,000 reports for the monthly report, file folders made and 50,000 copies of reports filed and the other copies sent to the central office for distribution from that point.

The 534,000 samples, when received were checked for identifications, prepared for testing by individual examination, removal of corks, breaking of clots of blood and centrifugalization when necessary.

In the test four dilutions are used meaning that the serum was withdrawn individually with a pipette from each of the 534,000 samples and transferred to four times this number or approximately 2,200,000 test tubes in varying amounts to make the four dilutions for each sample; the pipette used was washed and dried between each sample; antigen was prepared, measured and added to each of the 2,200,000 test tubes; the racks containing forty tubes each were identified, shaken, checked, properly arranged on shelves on a truck and placed in an incubator; each of the 2,200,000 tubes were later examined individually, their identifications were checked against the records, the results of the tests were determined and recorded, and five written copies of the results were prepared.

After completion of the tests the 534,000 blood tubes and the 2,200,000 tubes used in the test were washed and sterilized. The corks from the 534,000 blood tubes were also washed, sorted and sterilized to be used again.

This is only a general outline of the procedure and does not include many details of the necessary operations. The laboratory is maintained by the Department of Agriculture as a service to the public and as an indispensable part of the program for the control and prevention of disease in livestock in this State.

CATTLE EXAMINED AT COMMUNITY SALES

DURING the past year examinations were conducted by agents of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture of 1,593 sales, at which 405,364 animals were given antemortem examinations; 466 animals were quarantined; 83 animals were condemned and 51,893 hogs were vaccinated.

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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PRODUCTION OF MILK CONTINUING TOWARD NEW HIGH RECORDS

MILK production on Pennsylvania farms is continuing the upward trend which was begun during the past year, according to the reports of the Federal-State Crop Reporting service, issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The per cow production on February 1 averaged 17 pounds, the highest figure for that date since 1931, when production was 17.2 pounds, and well maintained the record high level of the past three months. In spite of the rising feed costs an average of 6.8 pounds of grain and concentrates per cow in the herd was fed, a figure surpassed only by the 7.5 pounds fed during the month of February, 1931.

An increase in the average number of milk cows on farms in 1941 was also shown, the number having advanced from 860,000 in 1940 to 882,000 last year. Milk production on Pennsylvania farms in 1941 was estimated to be 4,869,000,000 pounds or four percent above the 4,696,000,000 pounds produced in 1940. The average annual production per cow was 5,520 pounds last year, compared with 5,460 pounds a year earlier and the highest since 1931 when production was placed at 5,529 pounds. Among all the States, Pennsylvania ranked eighth in production and 10th in the number of milk cows on farms for each of the past three years.

The value per 100 pounds of grain and concentrates fed to milk cows increased sharply during the past three months, with the February 1 reported average of $1.80 per hundredweight being 22 cents higher than on November 1, 1941. Except for February 1, 1937 when feed costs were high because of short supplies following the drought, the unit value of grain fed to milk cows this year is the highest for the date in 11 years of record.

Throughout the country milk production on farms gained somewhat more rapidly than usual during January, maintaining the record high rate that has been in evidence for more than a year. Production for January, estimated at 8.7 billion pounds, starts off the new year at a level four percent above that in the same month last year.

With annual milk production per cow reaching a new peak and with the number of milk cows approaching pre-drought maximum, following three successive yearly increases, the amount of milk produced on farms in the country last year was by a considerable margin the highest yearly production ever obtained. The quantity produced on farms in 1941 was estimated at 115.5 billion pounds.

NEW RECORD MADE BY EGG COOPERATIVES

THE egg auction at Coatesville led the five cooperatives in this State last year in sales with a total of 94,860 cases of eggs sold during the 12-month period, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture. Sales at the other auctions were as follows: Butler Cooperative, 78,153; Bucks County auction, 77,204; Tri-County auction, 71,223, and Lehigh Valley, 56,053, making a total of 377,493 cases sold at the five auctions during 1941 compared with 354,399 cases sold in 1940.

The past year established a new high mark for sales, a consistent large increase having taken place each year since 1932 when four of the auctions then operating reported total sales of 49,653 cases. The Butler market was established the following year when total sales at the five markets registered 88,432 cases. A total of 2,113,804 cases have been sold at all markets since 1932. All eggs sold are graded under supervision of inspectors of the Department of Agriculture.

TAX LEVIES AVERAGE 99 CENTS PER ACRE

TAX levies on farm real estate in Pennsylvania averaged 99 cents per acre in 1940, according to census figures. In 1910 the figure was 47 cents per acre and after that year there was a consistent rise until 1930 when the average tax reached $1.30. After that year a decline is recorded and the downward trend continued until 1938 when the levy was 97 cents.

PEA CROP SHOWS BIG ADVANCE IN PENNA.

STATE inspection of peas for canning showed a phenomenal advance last year, establishing a new high record, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture. The volume of peas canned under state grades reached the total of seven million pounds, an increase of 40 percent over the five million pounds inspected in 1940. Approximately one-third of all peas grown in this State for canning are now purchased on the basis of state grades.

It is pointed out that the buying and selling of peas and other canning crops on the basis of official grades under State inspection insures both the producer and the processor of prices based upon the quality of the product and this same assurance had by the consumer when making purchases.

Commenting on the great advance of the pea canning industry in this State, Secretary John H. Light stated that "the growth of this branch of agriculture has been phenomenal in recent years. During the period from 1928 to 1941 the average crop grown in this State has increased 400 percent and the average annual cash income to farmers has gone from $92,000 to $482,000. Much of this increase is due to the high quality of canned peas being produced in Pennsylvania and to the trend of farmers toward greater diversification and the growing of more cash cannery crops."

Peas along with tomatoes have been designated by Federal Government officials as a preferred cannery crop for which greater production is requested this year than that of last year.

ADVISE METHODS TO REDUCE DESTRUCTION IN HOME GARDENS

WITH the approach of the vegetable and flower garden planting season, the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture points to the necessity of making preparations to prevent injury to plants, rather than to try to repair the damage after it is done.

Probably the first group of insects to attack plantings will be some of the cut worms. These worms or larvae are the young stage of several species of dark colored moths which are active at night.

Both vegetable and flower crops are destroyed by cut worms and they are present in all parts of the country. Recently set or young seedling plants are often cut off during the night, usually near the ground line and left lying to wilt. During the day the caterpillars are found in the soil an inch or so deep and when disturbed curl up and feign death.

Certain plots will likely contain more worms than others. If a plot was in garden last year and well cultivated, the number of cut worms will be less than in a plot which is put to garden use for the first time this year. This will be more evident if the plot was in heavy grass or weeds last year. Weedy or grassy plots are certain to contain some cut worms. Gardeners are urged to collect and destroy all cut worms as they dig and cultivate the soil. It is well to dispose of weedy material and refuse found about the edge of the garden. Cut worms as well as a number of other insects may come from these to attack the plants.

At planting time certain precautions should be taken against possible damage by cut worms. Paper collars may be placed about each plant as it is transplanted to the garden. These collars are made from stiff paper and should reach an inch or so into the soil and extend three inches above the ground. In preparing the collars, cut strips of heavy paper four inches wide and ten or more inches long. Roll these and put them in place as the plants are put in the ground.

In large gardens and fields it may be necessary to use a poison bait for cut worm control. This bait is prepared with wheat bran, Paris green, molasses, a bit of fruit and water. To prepare a small lot, use one quart of wheat bran, one teaspoonful Paris green, three teaspoonfuls molasses and one quarter of an orange. Mix the dry materials well together, the orange is chopped fine and mixed with the molasses and added to the dry mixture. Then add enough water to make a thick mash. This is scattered lightly over the garden at night fall.

DECREASE SHOWN IN LIVESTOCK ON FARMS INCREASE IN VALUE

THE combined farm inventory numbers of horses, mules, cattle, sheep and hogs on Pennsylvania farms January 1, 1942, showed a decline from January 1, 1941, according to the report of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service of the Department of Agriculture. While there were sharp increases in numbers of dairy cattle and sheep, they were not sufficient to offset declines in hogs and workstock, which brought the total decline to less than one percent. The number of chickens on farms increased seven percent between the two first of year inventory dates, while turkey numbers increased 31 percent, the sharpest gain in 12 years, to reach the highest numbers on record for the State.

Aggregate farm inventory value of the five livestock species jumped to $162,679,000, an increase of 21 percent on January 1, 1942 above the January 1, 1941 value. Values per head of all livestock species except horses and mules were much higher at the beginning of 1942 than at the beginning of 1941. Sheep and lambs made the most spectacular gain in value per head with a rise of 64 percent over a year ago. Other changes in values per head compared with last year were increases of 29 percent in cattle, 41 percent in hogs, 16 percent in chickens and 23 percent in turkeys, and a decrease of about 15 percent in horses and mules. Most of the gain in inventory valuation over last year was contributed by dairy cattle which was about 22 million dollars greater than last year's figure. This was an increase of 29 percent which compares with a 30 percent increase in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota, 37 percent increase in Ohio and Michigan, and a 25 percent increase in New York.

The decrease in horse and mule numbers was accelerated during the year and was the sharpest in the last ten years. Stallions registered in 1941 by the Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, numbered 396, compared with 438 in 1940 and 453 in 1939. Receipts of horses and mules on the Pittsburgh market from January 1 to November 30, 1941 totaled only 4,194 head, compared with 10,223 head during the same period in 1940, a decrease of 59 percent.

The number of cattle and calves on farms January 1, 1942 was two percent greater than a year earlier and the highest since 1920. The increase over a year ago was almost entirely due to larger numbers of cows, heifers and heifer calves, the number of steers having declined 3,000 head during the year, while the number of calves other than those kept for milk increased 2,000 head and cows and heifers not kept for milk did not change.

Hog numbers on farms declined seven percent during 1941 due to a reduction in the number of hogs six months old and older other than sows and gilts which increased 18 percent and pigs under six months old which increased one percent in number. The combined 1941 spring and fall pig crop was 60,000 head below the 1940 crop, while the indicated number of sows to farrow this spring, December 1, 1941 to June 1, 1942, is 12 percent greater than the number farrowed last spring.

Sheep numbers increased four percent from January 1, 1941 to January 1, 1942, halting the yearly decline in numbers which began in 1937. Wool production in 1941 was 2,694,000 pounds, compared with 2,834,000 pounds in 1940, a decline of five percent.

The number of chickens on Pennsylvania farms increased seven percent and turkeys 31 percent from January 1 a year ago to January 1 this year. Intended purchases of baby chicks by farmers in 1942 in the Middle Atlantic group of States, which includes Pennsylvania, show an increase of 12 percent over purchases in 1941, according to the results of recent survey of crop correspondents. Some differences between intentions and actual purchases is to be expected, depending upon egg prices during the hatching season and the feed-egg and feed-chicken price relationships.

Low, High Tax Levies

The lowest average per acre tax levy among all the states is in Wyoming where the figure is placed at six cents. Massachusetts heads the list with a levy of $2.70 per acre.

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NO CHANGE RECORDED IN FARMERS' PRICES COSTS ARE HIGHER

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products remained unchanged during the month ended February 15, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service survey released by the State Department of Agriculture. Advances were recorded in the prices of grains, fruits, and meat animals over the prices a month earlier, but prices of dairy products and chickens and eggs declined.

Based upon the level of prices which prevailed during the 1910-14 period which have been established as representing 100 points, the prices farmers must pay for the things he buys advanced one point during the month to 147 and increased 24 points during the past year. The farmers' purchasing power, however, decreased one point during the past month and advanced only six points to 104 during the past year, leaving a difference between the two sets of prices of 43 points unfavorable to the farmer.

The comparison of average prices received by Pennsylvania farmers, follows:

		Feb. 15, 1941	Feb. 15, 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$ .89	$ 1.18
Corn	Bu.	.70	.90
Oats	Bu.	.41	.57
Barley	Bu.	.59	.74
Rye	Bu.	.66	.82
Buckwheat	Bu.	.54	.69
Potatoes	Bu.	.65	1.10
Apples	Bu.	.85	1.20
Hay	Ton	9.90	13.70
Hogs	Cwt.	7.70	12.00
Beef cattle	Cwt.	8.40	10.10
Veal calves	Cwt.	11.30	13.30
Sheep	Cwt.	4.05	5.00
Lambs	Cwt.	9.10	10.80
Milk cows	Head	82.00	105.00
Horses	Head	111.00	114.00
Mules	Head	117.00	118.00
Chickens	Lb.	.168	.205
Turkeys	Lb.	.22	.26
Milk, wholesale	Cwt.	2.20	2.65
Milk, retail	Qt.	.11	.127
Butter	Lb.	.30	.37
Butterfat	Lb.	.30	.37
Eggs	Doz.	.198	.319
Wool	Lb.	.37	.43

The general level of local market prices received by farmers in the United States declined four points during the month ended February 15. Poultry products led the decline in farm product prices with a drop of 12 points. Dairy products declined one point.

AGENTS NOW MAKING SEED INSPECTIONS

WITH the approach of the planting season agents of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture have begun their annual visits to the more than 2,000 dealers in this State to check on the seeds which are being offered for sale in the enforcement of the Pennsylvania seed law. The object of the law is to safeguard the interests of the planter, the farmer and the reliable seedsmen, assuring the buyer of receiving good seed and the dealer of protection against unscrupulous vendors, since the quality of the seeds planted is one of the chief factors in the success or failure of the agricultural industry. It is estimated that approximately eight million dollars worth of seeds are sold annually in this State.

All seed offered for sale must have an analysis tag, giving the required information, attached to the bag. The contents of the bag must be the same as the analysis specifies on the tag. Samples are taken from the seeds offered for sale. The samples secured in this manner are sent to the seed laboratory of the Bureau of Plant Industry where they are carefully examined for purity and tested by trained seed analysts. If it is found that the sale of the seeds violates the seed law or that the seeds are not as represented, the penalties provided by the law are imposed. This protects the farmer against the dishonest dealer who would sell low quality seeds in unfair competition. The correct analysis informs the farmer as to the quality of the seeds bought, and prevents the sale of seeds that contain an excess amount of weeds and noxious weeds such as Canada thistle, dodder and others.

Sour Cherry Production

A total of 8,600 tons of sour cherries were produced last year in Pennsylvania which had a value of $1,032,000, according to the Department of Agriculture. The State ranked fifth among all the States in production and fourth in the value of the crop. The sweet cherry production amounted to 3,400 bushels, having a value of $476,000.

PA. AGRICULTURE ON PAR WITH INDUSTRY

PENNSYLVANIA is one of the great agricultural states of the Union. It has long been famous for its mines and factories, but capital invested in farms, crops, stock and farm machinery and equipment is double that invested in mining and quarrying which totals $634,993,600, according to an analysis being prepared by the Department of Agriculture. In total capital invested, agriculture compares favorably with either the metal and metal products industries with an investment of $1,822,389,500, or all other manufacturing industries of the State which show a total investment of $1,766,088,200.

Pennsylvania has 169,027 farms valued at $864,199,795, according to the Federal census of 1940. Farm implements and machinery were worth $129,099,593. Livestock and chickens and turkeys on farms January 1, 1942, were inventoried at $184,622,000. These three items alone represent an investment of $1,177,921,388.

CONVERT DAIRY INTO PROCESSING FACTORY

THE famous Shirley-Ayre dairy and breeding farms near Mt. Union are to pass into history. A sale for the disposal of the more than 200 head of registered Ayreshire cattle is being arranged and the buildings will be transformed into a canning factory.

The farms, owned by L. M. Hutchinson, hold many of the most coveted prizes awarded in many sections of the country. Entries at the Pennsylvania Farm Show have been consistent winners over the past several years and this is also true of the entries made at various cattle exhibits throughout the country.

The barns contain the most modern equipment. Included in the layout is an artistic building of stone construction surrounded by beautiful landscaping, which is used as a retail dairy products and ice cream parlor which is separated by large windows from a milking parlor where mechanical milking of the cows could be observed by patrons of the restaurant.

Installation of canning machinery is now under way. The plant will be devoted to the canning of tomatoes this season, arrangements having been made for processing 150 acres of tomatoes.

PULLET IN R O P TEST EQUALS HIGH RECORD GIVE YEAR'S REPORT

THIRTEEN Pennsylvania poultrymen entered a total of 5,349 pullets in home Record of Performance trapnesting under supervision of the State Department of Agriculture for the year 1940-41, and 2,425 or 45 percent of the pullets qualified with official records, according to the report made to Secretary John H. Light. Of the total birds entered 4,321 were Single Comb White Leghorns and of that number 1,878 birds qualified, registering an average production of 251.7 eggs per bird, an average egg weight of 26.1 ounces per dozen, and an average body weight of 4.4 pounds per bird. There were 588 Barred Plymouth Rocks of which 309, or 52.6 percent qualified having an average production of 241.4 eggs per bird, an average egg weight of 26 ounces per dozen, and an average body weight of 5.8 pounds per bird. There were 440 New Hampshires of which 238, or 54.1 percent qualified having an average production of 237.9 eggs per bird, an average egg weight of 26.5 ounces per dozen, and an average body weight of 5.9 pounds per bird.

The individual bird having the highest official record was a 4.2 pound Single Comb White Leghorn which produced 338 eggs averaging 24.4 ounces per dozen. This is the highest production ever attained but was equalled in the year 1939-40 and 1931-32. The leading Barred Plymouth Rock was a 5.8 pound bird which produced 310 eggs averaging 24.8 ounces per dozen, and the first among the New Hampshires was a 5.9 pound bird which produced 296 eggs averaging 27.4 ounces per dozen.

Each pullet entered in official trapnesting must produce 200 or more eggs averaging 24 or more ounces per dozen within a year after the date of her first egg in the trapnest, and her body weight must be within the requirement for the breed and variety as described in the American Standard of Perfection. Pullets on record receive unannounced inspections throughout the year.

RECORD PROGRESS IN EFFORTS TO CONTROL DISEASE IN CATTLE

THE extent of the progress being made in the programs for the eradication of Bang disease and tuberculosis in cattle in this State is seen in the report of Secretary John H. Light of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture covering the past three years. During that period in which a definite plan of testing and supervision was established on the individual and area basis, a total of 624,841 cattle in 73,151 herds were under supervision for the control of Bang disease compared with 326,035 cattle in 27,088 herds during the previous three years, or nearly double the number. During the last three-year period a total of 1,575,998 cattle in 130,014 herds were tested which is also approximately double the number tested during the previous three-year period.

The effectiveness of the program being followed is further indicated, according to the report, by the fact that at the end of 1938 there were four accredited counties in this State, meaning that Bang disease had been reduced to one percent or less in the number of cattle and to five percent or less in the number of herds affected, and since that time the number has been increased to 17 counties which have attained that status. At the end of 1938 there were 229 complete townships and 10 complete counties under supervision for the prevention and control of the disease and this number has been advanced to 530 townships and 21 counties.

According to the report, through intensive and systematic effort a reduction of more than 45 percent has been made in the number of cattle reacting to tuberculosis tests on an area basis comparing figures of 1936 with those of 1941. In individual tests, reactors have been reduced consistently showing only 628 in 1941 compared with 2,204 in 1936. Total reduction of reactors combining tests on the area and individual basis have been reduced more than 55 percent.

By reason of this progress in eliminating tuberculosis in cattle in this State, it is pointed out, indemnity payments have dropped from $457,751 for the three years from 1936 to 1938 to $250,559 for the past three years.

In commenting on the report Secretary Light stated: "There is no single activity of the Department of Agriculture of greater importance and of more widespread influence in the economic well being of agriculture as a whole than the program for the prevention and control of Bang Disease in cattle. This can be more fully appreciated when it is realized that cows for milk production are kept on approximately 125,000 of the 169,000 farms in this State or more than seven farms out of each 10 farms. The number of milk cows on Pennsylvania farms is about 925,000 having a value of approximately 75 million dollars.

It is therefore looked upon as a matter of the highest importance that a Bang disease program is one through which the greatest possible results may be obtained and that unremitting vigilance be constantly maintained in its supervision."

MANGE IN DOGS IS DIFFICULT TO CURE

MANGE in dogs is frequently attributed to malnutrition, dirt and neglect, according to the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The treatment of the disease is listed as a troublesome problem and in many cases destruction of the animal is the most humane course. A recent discovery that a drug extracted from derris root has shown remarkable effects on the disease is said to give a hopeful outlook. Early diagnosis of the disease is essential and proper application of the new preparation has been claimed to effect a complete cure in a large proportion of cases treated.

65.32% PRODUCTION AT EGG LAYING TEST

EGG production in the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test at the end of the 21st week was placed at 65.32 percent, the average number of eggs per bird being 96.03, or a total production of 106,108 eggs. A pen of single comb white leghorns is in the lead with a total production of 1,642 eggs. Average weight of all eggs is 23.99 ounces to the dozen.

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY
MAR 31 1942

URGE PRECAUTION TO REDUCE MORTALITY RATE IN YOUNG PIGS

THE importance of the farmer taking every precaution for reducing the heavy mortality rate of young pigs, from an economical point of view and particularly during the present period when greater food production is required, is pointed to by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. It is stated that the period between birth and weaning is a critical time in the life of pigs, compilations showing that in a survey covering 685 brood sows, 31 percent of the pigs farrowed failed to reach the weaning age. In another survey covering 2,320 pigs to determine the causes of death of pigs between birth and the age of 57 days which can be classed as the average period before weaning, it was found that the mortality rate was approximately 35 percent, the losses resulting from disorders and diseases due to prenatal influences. Some of the factors responsible for the heavy losses, it is claimed are the problems of disease and some are the problems of husbandry.

Good breeding stock and proper care, including proper feeding and sanitary conditions are claimed to be the important factors in efforts to reduce mortality. Many of the injuries and fatalities that occur during the newborn period can be avoided. The farrowing pen should have an area of 64 square feet and guard rails should be provided to permit the young pigs to escape being crushed by the dam. The floor litter should be three to four inches deep. For the first day or two after birth it is said to be good practice to permit the pigs to be with the sow only at feeding time which will aid in reducing losses through the sow lying on the young.

It is pointed out that any study of factors influencing swine diseases and losses must give prominence to the question of environment. Adequate and sanitary housing facilities exert their influence on the disease problem. Overcrowding, poor ventilation, poor floor drainage and lack of cleanliness contribute to the maintenance of sources of infection. Feed yards must be enlarged and swine herds reduced to smaller units if losses through disease are to be reduced. Dry sleeping quarters must be provided and pig lots should be rotated as often as possible. Newly purchased pigs should be isolated for a period sufficient to determine that they are free of disease.

PROCEDURE GIVEN IN DOG LAW VIOLATIONS

COURSES of procedure in the case of dogs running at large and damaging property have been suggested by the Dog Law Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture as a result of numerous complaints having been received of depredations by dogs. In cases of injury to property charges of general nuisance may be brought before any alderman or justice of the peace against the owner of the dog, or any constable or police officer in the territory in which the damage occurs may be notified to take action since they have jurisdiction over all cases of that kind.

It is pointed out that it is the duty of any police officer to seize any dog which bears a proper license which is found at large unaccompanied by the owner. The officer is also empowered to go upon any premises and enter any building to seize any dog which is at large, and it is unlawful for any officer to refuse to perform those duties under the dog laws.

It is further pointed out that it is unlawful for any person, excepting an officer, to kill, injure, poison or to attempt to do these things to any dog which bears a proper license tag, excepting in the case of a dog pursuing or wounding livestock or poultry or attacking human beings, whether the dog bears a license tag or not. Any unlicensed dog that enters any enclosure where poultry or livestock is confined may be killed by the owner of that place without liability.

In the case of an illegal killing by an officer or other person of a licensed dog the State is liable for the value of that dog not to exceed $100 and action can then be brought by the State to recover the damage from the person who killed the animal.

NOTIFY BEEKEEPERS TO CHANGE HIVES

NOTICES have been sent to about 500 beekeepers of this State urging them to notify the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture at once of their compliance with the requirement to transfer their bees to legal hives. During the inspection last year by the department agents that number of beekeepers were found to be housing bees in illegal hives and they were instructed to make the transfer before the Spring honey-making season. They have been warned that re-inspections will be begun May 1 and all bees still found in illegal hives at that time will be destroyed.

It is felt that a great majority of the beekeepers have complied with the requirements but they are being urged to notify the department in order to avoid the necessity of the agents making another inspection which will serve both as an economical measure and in the saving of tires on the department automobiles used by the agents.

HEAVY DEMAND FOR PA. POTATOES, APPLES

REPORTS to the Department of Agriculture indicate that stocks of Pennsylvania potatoes, frequently excessive at this season of the year, are considerably below normal, as a result of increased demands, and it is believed that Pennsylvania growers will have disposed of their entire stock before the warm season opens.

This condition is also true of the stocks of apples and it is expected that practically all stored apples will have been sold out of warehouses before May 1.

The egg and milk situation, however, is the reverse, milk being produced in surplus and the heavy egg production having caused a drop in prices. Both these farm commodities are on the list of the Federal Government for greater production to provide war needs.

It is estimated that 57,000 gallons of skim milk "goes down the sewer" each week in this State as a result of the heavy production of milk. There is also reported to be a considerable quantity of raw milk for which the farmer has no market, and some of this it is suggested is being made into butter. Skim milk can be used in the production of powdered milk which is shipped to foreign countries under lend-lease, but processing plants are not located where they can be available for the manufacture of the present surplusses.

The heavy production of eggs has depressed prices and shipments are made difficult, and in some cases impossible, because of a shortage of crates. A large contributing factor to the shortage was caused by army camps where the crates in which eggs were received were burned instead of being returned to the shippers.

VEGETABLE CROPS IN EAST ARE DAMAGED

ACCORDING to reports of the Department of Agriculture the carry-over and winter-planted spinach in the Bucks-Philadelphia area was exposed to strong, cold winds together with alternate freezing and thawing during February, resulting in damage in some fields which may go as high as 50 percent. The crop does not look promising, according to the report, although it is still too early to make a definite appraisal of the prospects.

RIR PEN LEADS IN EGG LAYING TEST

THE report of the 23rd week, covering 90 days of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test showed a pen of Rhode Island Reds, entered by the Crooks Farm has taken the production lead with a total of 1,775.70 points and production of 1,711 eggs. Second and third places are held by Single Comb White Leghorns, the first owned by Babcock's Hatchery with production of 1,797 eggs and a score of 1,762.15 points and the other owned by J. A. Hanson, production 1,664 eggs and a score of 1,742 points.

Production of all pens to date stands at 65.41 percent and the average production per bird at 105.31 eggs which have been scored at 105.73 as the average number of points per bird.

DOUBLE EFFORTS TO BRING IMPROVEMENT TO POULTRY FLOCKS

OUTSTANDING progress in the services rendered by the Department of Agiculture in the effort to aid poultrymen in the advancement of that industry in this State is recorded in a report of Secretary John H. Light which covers the past three years. The efforts of the department are directed at both flock improvement through the poultry division of the Bureau of Markets, and elimination of disease through the Bureau of Animal Industry.

During the past three years inspectors of the department handled the all-time high total of 1,038,994 birds in flocks throughout the State in the flock improvement program which is designed to develop high egg producing birds. That total compares with 905,419 birds handled during the previous three-year period.

The department has instituted the Record of Performance program under which birds entered are trapnested and their actual production recorded on a yearly basis. To qualify under the improvement program a bird must produce not less than 200 eggs in a year. The number of flocks entered by poultrymen throughout the State in that program advanced from 12,805 for the previous three-year period to 15,309 during the past three years and the number of birds that qualified by meeting the standard, increased from 3,628 to 6,976 during the past three years.

The services of the bureau are also extended to the egg market and through the greater encouragement of selling eggs by grade, producers have realized a big advantage in that higher prices are procured and at the same time, the public is given assurances of receiving specified quality. That this service is proving of great benefit is seen by its great expansion over the past three years during which the number of cases of eggs sold under department inspection was nearly double the number sold during the previous three years. The total number of cases for the first period was 669,290 compared with 1,081,039 for the later period.

Much progress is reported in the effort to cut losses caused by pullorum disease which probably takes the highest toll in the poultry industry. As a part of the control measures followed by the department specimens of blood and fowl are examined at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry at no cost to the poultry owner and during the past three years the number of laboratory tests increased by more than 150,000 above the number of tests made during the previous three-year period. The disease control program however, extends to all diseases as is shown by the fact that the number of samples submitted for diagnosis of other diseases in poultry increased by one-half million, comparing the two periods. This record is pointed to as not only showing the great expansion of the department program, but of the ever-widening interest and cooperation of the poultrymen in the advancement of that industry.

Commenting upon the report Secretary Light stated: "Recognizing the importance of poultry as a division of agriculture in Pennsylvania, the Department of Agriculture is vitally interested in the advancement of that part of agriculture and is proud of the fine cooperation given by the industry itself in these efforts. Progress can be made only by developing more highly producing birds and in cutting down losses suffered by disease and low producing birds. The department programs cover these three phases, aiding the poultryman to cull from his flocks the profitless birds, direction of the development of higher producers and disease control. With poultry and poultry products produced in Pennsylvania annually having a value of more than 31 million dollars which places this State high among all poultry states in this division of agriculture, the efforts of the department can readily be appreciated and the progress being made is most gratifying."

Termite Circular Available

A circular on control and prevention of destruction caused by termites, commonly referred to as "white ants," is available by addressing the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

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SUGGEST PLAN TO BE FOLLOWED IN CONTROL OF BANGS' DISEASE

IN furthering the program for the elimination of Bang disease in cattle in this State the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture has issued a set of rules to be followed by the dairyman, in which it is pointed out that the goal of the department program is to have all herds free of the disease. It is also declared that the success in obtaining clean herds depends directly and is in proportion to the facilities and thoroughness in the practical application of these principles.

The bulletin states that "calfhood vaccination has been recognized and recommended by the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, the American Veterinary Medical Association and the United States Livestock Sanitary Association as an adjunct or aid to other methods of controlling Bang disease infection. This method, however, has all too frequently been employed as a substitute for other control measures. In keeping with our present knowledge calfhood vaccination should be considered as a means to an end and should be used only to assist other approved methods of control.

"Thirty-nine states including Pennsylvania have adopted methods of calfhood vaccination, centered around the following three methods: Test and immediate elimination of positive reactors with indemnities; test and immediate elimination of positive reactors with calfhood vaccination and indemnities, and test and gradual elimination of positive reactors with calfhood vaccination and without indemnities. The last named plan is not permitted in Modified Accredited Areas.

"Repeated blood tests and elimination of reactors may never result in the elimination of the disease unless supplemented by proper herd management and sanitation. The cardinal principle in connection with herd management is the suppression of exposure to infection, and this principle is suggested as essential in all methods of control, the essential principles of which are: Blood test under Federal-State supervision; elimination of reactors and their proper isolation until disposed of; herd management which calls for the suppression of exposure to infection; maternity stalls or barn properly separated from remainder of the herd; isolation of cows at calving time and for a period of from two to three weeks following that period; additions to herds should originate in Bang Disease Free Accredited herds or negative herds under official supervision; close daily observation of all animals in the herd; keep stable and yard clean; disinfect premises frequently and thoroughly, and avoid contamination of feed and water."

LIST OF R O P FLOCKS IS NOW AVAILABLE

THE Poultry Division of the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture has issued the annual list of names and addresses of owners of Pennsylvania poultry flocks and hatcheries who operate under the standard grades and regulations of the "Poultry Standardization Plan" of the Bureau, covering the 1941-42 season. All male and female birds intended for breeding under the plan must be individually inspected at least once each year by an authorized poultry inspector, who makes selections according to standards of health, egg and meat production, and freedom from all disqualifications including serious defects. It is also mandatory that the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture perform a blood test for pullorum disease on every bird kept on the premises.

The list is available to any interested person by addressing the Bureau of Markets, Department of Agriculture.

40 DEGREES IS BEST FOR POTATO STORAGE

THERE is scientific evidence, according to the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, from studies on shrinkage, quality changes and prevention of blackrust, that a storage temperature of about 40 degrees F. and a reasonable consideration to provide ventilation are necessary for good potato storage condition.

STRESS IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY SEEDS

WITH the planting season at hand the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture again stresses the importance of planting good quality seed which is necessary for the success of any farm operation, and of particular importance at the present time when greater production is required. Not only is the quality of the seed important, but it is pointed out, that adaptability of the seed to the particular area where it shall be planted is also a great factor in procuring satisfactory crops.

It is stated that it is not enough to know that the seed to be purchased looks good and can be bought at a reasonable price. Casual examination of seed does not reveal quality nor the amount of foreign matter which might be among the seed. The farmer, it is pointed out, should know definitely just what the quality and crop producing value of every particular seed purchase actually is and what he is sowing when he plants it in his field.

It is urged by the Department of Agriculture that only seeds be purchased which are sold in compliance with the Pennsylvania seed law.

GIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR CHICK RAISING

THE chick hatching season being in full swing, the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture has pointed to the great losses suffered through diseases in chicks and the necessity of taking preventive measures to reduce those losses to a minimum. Of the millions of chicks which will be hatched during the next few months, which is the heaviest hatching season, many of them will never reach maturity because of disease and each dead chick represents a loss.

Disease takes its greatest toll during the first two or three weeks of life. The most destructive of the diseases is pullorum disease, the greatest safeguard against which is the purchase of blood tested chicks or chicks from blood tested stock. It is transmitted from the infected hen, through the egg to the baby chick. The infected chicks in turn infect other chicks in the same incubator or brooder. Infection can also be had from contaminated premises. The mortality rate is high.

Another of the diseases is infectious bronchitis, an apparently new respiratory disease in chicks which has only recently been recognized, but is becoming of greater importance. It usually affects chicks when they are from two days to three weeks old. The mortality rate of chickens which may become infected is not high but egg production is often greatly lowered. The disease is characterized by gasping for breath and losses in chicks is rather high. Gasping symptoms are also present in other diseases, particularly in pullorum disease and brooder pneumonia. The latter disease usually occurs during the first few weeks of brooding in damp, overheated, poorly ventilated houses. The usual symptom is "gaping."

Disease control measures consist of the removal of the visibly affected chicks and thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting the houses. It is important to keep litter dry by the use of wire platforms under the feeding and drinking vessels and at the same time to avoid dusty litter. General principles of sanitation must be followed at all times.

BEES WILL SOON BE GATHERING HONEY

BEES are already in full operation inside their hives to prepare their colonies for the season's crop of honey, according to the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The honey bee does not hibernate as most insects do, but maintains a temperature of 57 degrees or over and is more or less active throughout the entire season. Most of the time during the winter they form a cluster to conserve heat, but during warmer days make cleansing flights in the vicinity of their hives.

From the Fall period until the first nectar and pollen is available in the Spring the colonies maintain themselves by stores gathered during the past season.

PENNA. FARMERS SOLD PRODUCTS VALUED AT 322 MILLION IN '41

FARMS in Pennsylvania sold products worth $321,514,000 in 1941 at the prices at which they changed hands when leaving the farm, according to a federal-state report issued by John H. Light, secretary of the Department of Agriculture. This sum was made up of $231,403,000 in sales of livestock and its products, including meat animals and poultry, milk, eggs and wool, and $90,111,000 in sales of crops.

It is emphasized in the report that these sums are sales, and that from them it would be necessary to deduct the numerous costs of farm operation before net returns can be arrived at. There are no complete current compilations of such farm expense figures, but some indication may be arrived at from the U. S. Census which enumerated a few important expense items for 1939. For example $25,529,084 was expended in cash for hired farm labor, in addition to the board or other "privileges" furnished to many of the workers. Another $44,336,018 went into purchased feed for livestock and poultry. Implements and machinery and their repairs costs $19,962,211 while gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil and lubricating oil amounted to $7,652,630. Commercial fertilizers amounted to $8,976,874, liming material to $3,230,019, and building materials to $12,733,697. Real estate taxes were about $9,975,523 while several million dollars additional were paid out for interest on mortgages and other indebtedness. Due to price rises, many of these costs were substantially greater in 1941 than in the Census year. It is estimated that allowing for no increase in employment, the farm labor cost will show an increase of from 30 to 35 percent this year over 1939. It is only after these expenses, and many unrecorded items among which milk hauling is a big item, are deducted, that the net income for the labor of the farmers and their families and the return on their equity in farm property could be computed.

The Pennsylvania farm products sales in 1940 were listed as $275,821,000; in 1939 they were $261,667,000 and in 1938 the total was $258,088,000.

BIG INCREASE SHOWN IN TURKEY RAISING

PENNSYLVANIA is making rapid strides as a turkey producing state, reports of the Department of Agriculture showing that during the past 10 years the turkey industry has experienced steady and rapid growth, the number of birds raised having increased from 192,000 in 1929 to 927,000 raised last year. Increases have been registered each year excepting in 1937 when a decline was shown.

That the upward trend is continuing is seen by the survey which indicates that the number of turkeys on Pennsylvania farms January 1 was 31 percent greater than the number on the comparable date a year earlier and was the highest number of record for the State. The average price received by farmers for turkeys per pound live weight was four cents higher the past Fall than a year previously. On February 15 the price averaged 27 cents per pound.

According to the survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by the Department of Agriculture, turkey producers in the United States intended to buy or hatch about eight percent more poults this year than last year. The number of turkey breeding hens on hand February 1 was only five percent more than a year earlier.

The report relates to poults intended for raising and does not necessarily indicate the number of turkeys that will actually be raised this year. Differences in intentions and performance frequently occur, controlling factors being the price of feed and the supply and price of hatching eggs and poults. In 1938 intentions exceeded performance by three percent, in 1939 by two percent, in 1940 by four percent, but last year one percent more poults were produced than previous intentions indicated.

It is suggested that unless the hatching season begins earlier this year than in 1941 and continues late, the supply of eggs may be insufficient to produce the intended eight percent increase.

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EXTENSIVE PROGRAM OF DISEASE CONTROL IS AID TO FARMERS

An indication of the extensiveness of only a part of the service rendered by the Department of Agriculture to agriculture in this State to combat and control diseases in livestock is seen in the report of the laboratory operated under the Bureau of Animal Industry which is maintained for the sole purpose of giving aid and advice on a free-service basis. The report also shows the great growth in this service over the past three years as a result of intensified efforts in disease control programs.

Covering the past three year period the report shows that a total of 3,610,529 specimens were submitted to the laboratory for examination compared with a total of 2,573,599 for the previous three-year period. Although the specimens submitted cover a wide range animals and fowl, those involving examinations for Bang disease in cattle and pullorum disease in poultry constitute a great part of the total. Examinations for Bang disease over the past three-year period numbered 1,604,405, compared with 910,-296 for the previous similar period, and those for pullorum disease totaled 1,921,-671 compared with 1,637,935.

Included in the specimens received during the past three years at the laboratory were those of 1,475 animals suspected of having rabies. Although dogs led the list in great proportion it is seen that the disease is not confined to that animal. Of the total specimens, 630 were found to be affected by the disease of which 606 were dogs, nine were cats and 15 were cattle.

An idea of the variety of specimens submitted for examination can be had from a report of one month in which the list shows as follows: Cattle for Bang disease, 54,331; horses, four; swine, 12; sheep, one; steer, one; goats, 44; dogs, 18; cats, two; rabbits, one; mouse, one; chickens for pullorum disease, 130,-912; turkeys, 1,778; ducks, 14; guinea fowl, five; pheasants, 150, and feed, five.

The laboratory maintained by the Department of Agriculture is located near Harrisburg and is of the most modern type and employs a staff of technicians. Not only are examinations made of specimens which are submitted but extensive experimental work is carried on involving a great number of animals and poultry and guinea pigs.

Secretary John H. Light stated that the work carried on in that bureau is of the greatest importance to agriculture and is a service without which agriculture in this advanced period could not hope to continue. It is through this service that the farmer is able to combat and control diseases in livestock which would cause ruin if this service were not available. The fine results obtained are made possible largely by the cooperation of the farmer, who fully realizes the necessity of complying with disease control programs."

EXPECT INCREASE IN PA. CABBAGE ACREAGE

Growers of domestic cabbage in all Pennsylvania truck crop areas expect to plant a larger acreage this year, if present intentions are fulfilled, according to the Federal-State crop survey issued by the Department of Agriculture. Much of the increased plantings will be made in the western and northeastern counties with somewhat less acreage than a year ago being planted in the southeastern counties.

The late Danish cabbage acreage in Pennsylvania is expected to be larger than a year ago. Growers in the Columbia-Luzerne-Schuylkill area indicate that they will plant about 10 percent more this year. The Indiana county acreage will also show a sizeable increase. Other areas in the State and in the important Waterford, Erie Co., area will plant about the same or only slightly less than last year if growers present intentions are carried out.

Test Ends 25th Week

Egg production at the end of the 25th week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test, conducted by the Department of Agriculture, was 65.57 for the entire period, with an average of 114.75 eggs per bird. The average egg weight was 24.16 ounces per dozen. A pen of Rhode Island Reds from Crooks Farm held first place in the test to date.

MORE FARMERS PLAN TO GROW TOMATOES

Reports to the Department of Agriculture indicate that the increased acreage desired this year for the growing of tomatoes for canning will be procured through a greater number of farmers planting that crop rather than from the regular grower expanding his acreage. Efforts are being made by canners to exceed last year's acreage of approximately 20,000 acres since the demands for canned tomatoes and tomato products for the armed forces and for lease-lend are listed as essential food.

Difficulty is being experienced, however, by the canners in getting growers to increase their acreages and in some cases to meet last year's acreage because of the shortage of labor and the uncertainties of the labor situation. As a result a greater number of farmers are being procured to take up tomato growing and contracts are being made with farmers who have never before grown that crop.

The canners are contracting this year on the basis of $22 per ton or slightly higher for U. S. No. 1's and $14 per ton or more for U. S. No. 2's. In a few instances contracts are being made on a flat rate basis of $19 per ton.

Pennsylvania has recently taken a leading role in the production of cannery tomatoes and is now regarded as one of the best producing areas of the entire country.

INDICATE INCREASED ACREAGES TO GRAINS POTATOES REDUCED

Increases in acreage to be planted to corn, oats, barley and soybeans in this State this year are indicated in a survey by the crop reporting service issued by the State Department of Agriculture, while a decrease is reported in the acreages to be planted to potatoes and tobacco.

The indicated corn acreage this year is placed at 1,320,000 acres compared with 1,282,000 acres last year, or 103 percent of the 1941 acreage. Oats acreage is placed at 885,000 acres compared with 876,000 acres last year and barley acreage is indicated to be 147,000 acres compared with 139,000 acres last year.

The potato acreage is indicated to be 98 percent of the 1941 acreage, the total to be planted being given as 157,000 acres compared with 160,000 acres last year. The reduction is indicated in spite of the fact that growers are said to have had a most satisfactory market for last year's crop. Intentions to reduce the acreage are attributed to the greatly increased costs of production, inability to procure equipment in some cases and the uncertainty of the labor conditions. The high price of seed potatoes is believed to be an influencing factor. In some sections fear is being expressed that sufficient labor might not be available to harvest the crop and reductions in acreage are being made on that account.

The potato acreage this year, if indications are adhered to, will be far below the 207,000 acres which is the average for the years 1930 to 1939. For the country at large the increase in acreage to be planted is less than one percent over last year and 16 percent below the average for the years from 1930 to 1939.

The cut in the tobacco acreage, indicated to be from 35,700 acres last year to 34,600 acres this year, which is 97 percent of last year's acreage, is said to have resulted from the unsatisfactory market conditions which are prevailing in that crop. Acreage last year was increased and the crop was one of the best on record in yield and quality, but prices have not advanced in the face of advances in all other lines. It is reported that some of the acreage which is being taken out of tobacco will be used for growing tomatoes.

Soybean acreage is indicated to be 96,-000 acres compared with 77,000 acres last year and an average for the years 1930 to 1939 of 32,000 acres. It is believed that a considerable part of the increase will be planted for beans instead of forage for cattle.

It is pointed out in the survey that the acreages actually planted this year may be larger or smaller than those indicated by reason of weather conditions, price changes, labor supply, financial conditions and other factors, but that the present indications serve as a guide to the farmer.

STEADY DECREASE IS SHOWN IN VALUES OF LIVESTOCK ON FARMS

According to the census of agriculture the value of livestock, including poultry and bees, on Pennsylvania farms on April 1, 1940, was lower than during any of the five-year census periods since 1910, excepting that of 1935 it is pointed out by the State Department of Agriculture. The latest value is placed at $136,088,698, compared with the high mark attained during the past 30 years of $238,774,641 in 1920. The lowest value was in 1935, the figure being $112,723,350.

The high point in the value of crops harvested and of forest products was also reached in 1920, according to the records covering the past 30 years and that value of $409,938,405 was about two and one-half times the value of $163,988,280 given for April 1, 1940. In 1910 the value was approximately five million below the 1940 figure while in 1930 it was $211,299,565.

Of the livestock products sold, whole milk, cream and butter lead the list in value which is placed at $79,364,347 of which $76,470,097 was for whole milk. These figures are as of April 1, 1939, and compare with $100,964,391 as the total for 1929 of which $91,570,715 was for whole milk. In 1919 the figures were $92,450,524 and $72,859,504 and in 1909 the values are given as $38,217,493 and $24,113,790.

During the year ended April 1, 1940, livestock ranked second to dairy products combining the values of animals butchered on the farms which is placed at $8,642,892, and the value of livestock sold alive which is placed at $25,708,504. The value of chicken eggs produced on farms during that year is placed at $27,587,422, exceeding the value of livestock sold alive. The value of chickens sold alive or dressed is placed at $12,783,174 and the value of all poultry raised was $25,120,789, less than two million under the value of the chicken eggs produced.

These values were all exceeded in 1929 when the value of chicken eggs produced was $42,862,171; in 1924 when the value was $37,705,820 and in 1919 when the value was $36,479,123. In the value of crops harvested cereals lead with a value of $58,137,218, which is also the lowest in the 30-year period. The highest value was reached in 1919 and was $187,178,692, or more than three times greater than the more recent figures. The value in that instance was also exceeded in the 1934 period when farm products values were at a low ebb. Hay and forage are next in value and the figure of $45,323,144 for 1940 was exceeded in each of the census periods for the previous 30 years excepting 1934. The high value was reached also in 1919 when the figure was placed at $106,044,332.

URGE WIDER USE OF SKIM MILK FOR FOOD

Declaring that the mineral and protein contents of skim milk are not lessened by removing the butterfat and vitamin A of the cream, the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture advocates a wider use of skim milk for human consumption for both its value as a food and to eliminate the great waste resulting from it not being used for any purpose. It is stated that between 46 and 50 percent of all the milk produced in this country is separated to obtain the cream and of the resulting skim milk only about 12 percent is used in the production of dairy products, such as cheese which has a food value approximating that of lean meat. It is estimated that this leaves annually about 50 billion pounds of skim milk which is fed to animals, used in manufacturing or destroyed.

There is however, a constant increase in the use of skim milk for the manufacture of various articles, great quantities being used for the making of casein which is used in paints, buttons and artificial ivory. The whey is used for solvents, lacquers, plastics and a substitute for wool. In spite of these uses, it is stated that there is an annual supply of 40 billion pounds of skim milk above that which is converted into these products and that it is this surplus which it is urged, should be encouraged for human consumption.

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WORK WEEK ON FARM AVERAGES 68 HOURS NO OVERTIME WAGES

CROSS section surveys made by the crop reporting service and issued by the State Department of Agriculture show that the average work day of the Pennsylvania farmer constitutes 10.5 hours and that of the farm employe, 9.1 hours. Agriculture being a full six-day week enterprise with considerable work required to be done on the seventh day, particularly in dairying, it is considered a fair assumption that the average work week for the farmer would be at least 68 to 70 hours and that of the employe at least 65 to 68 hours.

A comparison of hours worked in industry was made from a report of the United States Department of Labor in which it is shown that the average number of hours worked per week per workman were over 50 in six war industries and that the machine tool and machine tool accessories industries led with an average of 55 hours. The average number of hours worked by all factory workers is placed at 41.5 per week.

It is pointed out that unlike the industrial worker the farm operator has no guarantee of a specified income but takes his chances with regulated prices which he receives although the prices he pays for the things he needs are higher in proportion. His operation is governed greatly by weather conditions and is now faced with serious labor problems, which may prevent the harvesting of some of the crops. The procuring of labor, it is insisted, is made increasingly difficult, not alone by the military draft, but by the attraction to the higher industrial wages which are being offered and by the payment of time and one-half for more than 40 hours a week, which is an economic impossibility in agriculture. Records show that farm wages have increased from 25 to 30 percent during the past year.

PRODUCE SEVENTH OF CLOVER SEED USED ANNUALLY IN PENNA.

PENNSYLVANIA farmers sow annually an average of seven million pounds of red clover seed of which they produce only about 1,300,000 pounds, or about 22,000 bushels according to the latest agricultural census figures, John H. Light Secretary of Agriculture stated in a survey of cash crop possibilities. On the basis of the latest average price quotations of about $16 a bushel that means that the farmers of this State are paying a total of nearly two million dollars for the clover seed they use in one season. The value of the crop produced in this State, based upon the latest average price of about $13 a bushel received by the farmer, is less than $300,000.

According to the census figures the average production is slightly less than one bushel of seed to the acre, however, the survey reveals that a potato grower in the Northwestern part of the State produces an average of four bushels per acre from 100 acre tract in the rotation he practices in growing potatoes, threshing the seed by combine and leaving the chaff on the ground.

Fulton County leads all counties in the State in seed production, the latest available records showing an annual crop of 2,483 bushels. Other counties which produced more than 1,000 bushels are York, 1,949; Franklin, 1,777; Indiana, 1,537; Lancaster, 1,474; Bedford, 1,446; Armstrong, 1,085, and Adams, 1,077.

Production of other legume seeds in this State is far below that of red clover and is shown to be as follows: Alfalfa, 365 bushels; sweet clover, 2,569 bushels, and lespedeza, 7,282 pounds. Production of grass seed was 18,450 bushels in the last recorded year.

PRODUCTION 65.59% IN EGG LAYING TEST

EGG production at the end of the 26th week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test stood at 65.59 percent, bringing the total number of eggs produced to 131,905 and the average number of eggs per bird to 119.37 having an average weight of 24.20 ounces per dozen. Brooks Farm pen of Rhode Island Reds held first place at that time.

LARGE CROP CHANGES TO BE MADE IN '42

ON a country-wide basis there will be unusually large shifts between crops and a three to four percent increase over last year in the total acreage of crops to be grown by farmers this year, according to the Federal-State crop report issued by the Department of Agriculture. Outstandingly large acreages will be planted to crops that can be crushed for the vegetable oils. The indications are that the acreage planted to soybeans for all purposes will be increased 41 percent to 14 million acres. The Pennsylvania acreage is indicated to be 125 percent of last year's acreage.

To provide for the record numbers of livestock and poultry on hand farmers are also planning to increase the total acreage in feed crops. The indicated changes from last year's plantings include a five percent increase in corn to 91 million acres, a three percent increase in oats, a 21 percent increase in barley, three percent more land in tame hay, and six percent less land used for sorghums. If these plans are carried out, the total acreage to be planted to feed grains will be increased six percent which about balances the seven percent increase during 1941 in grain consuming livestock, including poultry, and the similar increase expected in 1942. There would be also a record acreage of tame hay and forage. If the usual acreage of wild hay is cut, the total hay and forage acreage would seem to be ample for requirements under ordinary weather conditions.

SUGGESTIONS GIVEN FOR HOME GARDENS

A NUMBER of suggestions have been issued by the Department of Agriculture for the guidance of those who are planning Victory gardens this year. They are as follows:

Do not dig up lawns or playground areas in built-up sections. They had best be retained in lawns and flowers and for the use of our young folks. Better let war gardening to those who live in the country, in small towns or in the outskirts and more open parts of cities.

Do not attempt a garden on poor soil or you will be doomed to disappointment and will not be contributing in proportion to the effort, expense and materials consumed.

Dig or plow your garden as early in the spring as the ground can be worked, turning under a liberal coat of manure, if available. Apply fertilizer, if any, at planting time.

Select standard kinds of vegetables and small fruits. Larger tree fruits except on the farm where there may at present be a shortage of such products, are not recommended.

Keep away from novelties. There is an abundance of well known and proved varieties and methods of growing all the vegetables and small fruits which belong in wartime gardens.

If you have seeds left over from last year, test them for germination and use them if they grow satisfactorily. Do not waste seeds by buying more than you need, or sowing them thicker than is necessary.

Some inexperienced persons may be tempted to try growing their own vegetable plants by sowing seeds early indoors. This can be done to some extent even in the ordinary dwelling. But the average gardener will likely be ahead by getting his plants from someone who makes plant growing a business.

Do your planting as early as possible for the kind of vegetables or small fruits you plan to grow, but do not, in the case of vegetables, take chances with early spring frosts or soil too cold for prompt germination and growth.

Plan your garden carefully and determine to carry on throughout the season and to the final harvest.

Above all don't let weeds get the jump on your garden, but kill them before they get started. One hour with a weeding tool will accomplish more when weeds are just nicely through the ground than a half day of back-breaking weeding by hand or hoeing later on.

Stored Crops Marketed

Most of the stored vegetable crops have been moved to market although a few beets, parsnips and turnips continued to move from the Bucks-Philadelphia area, according to latest surveys.

MILK PRODUCTION IS CONTINUING RECORD BREAKING STRIDE

COWS on Pennsylvania farms are continuing their record defense production which registered new high marks in February, the third consecutive month during which new high levels were reached in this State, according to the Federal-State crop report issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The 17.7 pounds of milk per cow for March 1 was nearly equal to the average for May 1 when dairy rations are supplemented by pastures, bringing greater production. Feed prices advanced one percent during March. Dairymen indicated that the average pounds of grain and concentrates fed per cow was 7.7 pounds on March 1, a rate which has been equaled only once before in the 12 years of record and that was in May, 1940. To the high feeding rate is attributed considerable of the increased milk production.

Milk production throughout the United States continues the upward trend with February showing a four percent increase over the same month a year ago. Reports show heavier feeding and milking a larger proportion of cows than usual at this time of the year.

Continued heavy deliveries on Lend-Lease purchases are making fairly heavy inroads on manufacturers' stocks of evaporated milk but purchases under that program have eased up slightly during the past six weeks. New commitments in February for the country at large declined nine percent from the record output during the same month last year, but Pennsylvania production was 29 percent greater than a year ago, having reached slightly over a million pounds. In both this State and New York, milk above fluid milk and cream requirements was used in butter manufacture, causing creamery butter production in the entire area to be 189 percent higher than a year earlier.

THREE POINT DROP IS SHOWN IN PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

PRICES paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products declined three points during the month which ended March 15, according to the Federal-State Crop index released by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. It is also shown that using the period from 1910 to 1914 as a base of 100 that the farmers' purchasing power declined three points, from 104 to 101 for the month, but at the same time the prices the farmer must pay for the things he needs advanced from 147 to 148 leaving a difference of 47 points unfavorable to the farmer. Comparing the status with that of a year previously the prices farmers pay for their necessities advanced from 124 to 148, or a total of 24 points, but the farmers' purchasing power advanced only from 96 to 101, or a total of five points.

Using the 1910-14 base the index places grains at 123 points; fruits, 149; meat animals, 166; dairy products, 169; chickens and eggs, 120.

Average commodity prices in Pennsylvania on March 15 compared with those of a year earlier are shown to be as follows:

		Mar. 15, 1941	Mar. 15, 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$ .90	$ 1.19
Corn	Bu.	.71	.93
Oats	Bu.	.42	.59
Barley	Bu.	.59	.75
Rye	Bu.	.66	.83
Buckwheat	Bu.	.54	.70
Potatoes	Bu.	.60	1.10
Apples	Bu.	.85	1.20
Hay	Ton	9.80	13.90
Hogs	Cwt.	7.70	12.60
Beef cattle	Cwt.	8.30	10.40
Veal calves	Cwt.	10.80	13.40
Sheep	Cwt.	4.05	5.00
Lambs	Cwt.	9.40	10.90
Milk cows	Head	83.00	105.00
Horses	Head	113.00	118.00
Mules	Head	118.00	120.00
Chickens	Lb.	.174	.209
Turkeys	Lb.	.23	.27
Milk, wholesale	Cwt.	2.15	2.55
Milk, retail	Qt.	.116	.129
Butter	Lb.	.30	.36
Butterfat	Lb.	.30	.36
Eggs	Doz.	.191	.279
Wool	Lb.	.38	.43

Poor Spinach Stands

Many wintered-over spinach fields in the Southeastern area have poor stands but the milder temperature and additional rainfall has brought considerable improvement.

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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MAY 4 - 1942

REDUCTION SEEN IN FEED GRAIN SUPPLY FOR COMING SEASON

THERE is a probability that there will be a smaller supply of feed grains available for livestock in the 1942-43 season than there was for the 1941-42 season, according to a federal-state report issued from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

According to the March 1 report from farmers for the entire country, they were planning to plant about six percent greater acreage of the four principal feed grains and with yields as good as a year ago, a greater total production would be obtained if these intentions were carried out, but lighter yields than a year ago, however, can be expected since last year's yields were far above average and near a record high and two successive high yielding years do not frequently occur. Farmers usually plant somewhat less than they plan early in the season, and a smaller carry-over of feed grains is now in prospect for next season than took place last year.

Production of livestock and livestock products is also on the upgrade. This tendency will also make more livestock to feed and therefore less feed per animal to be fed.

Present prospects are for more oil cakes and meals than this year, enough to make the supply of high protein feed per animal unit probably the largest on record. Many of the dairy and producers of other livestock products of this State are fortifying themselves against the probable lighter supply of feed grains by purchasing feed wheat from the West and by planning to plant a greater acreage of feed grains on their farms this season.

BEGIN OPERATIONS IN VEGETABLE FIELDS

THE working of asparagus beds in the Bucks-Philadelphia area was begun the first week in April, the open Winter and lack of extreme temperatures having been favorable to the crop. Growers report to the Department of Agriculture that their beds are in excellent condition. According to the reports labor for cutting much of the crop is expected to be done by high school boys in the area who will be excused from morning classes to perform the work.

The Winter-covered spinach in Southeastern Pennsylvania showed considerable recovery during the past weeks with the crop greening up well. Many fields in the area withstood the Winter much better than previous indications and growers are now anticipating heavy yields of good quality spinach. Harvesting of the crop is now under way. The prevalence of seasonable weather has caused the Winter-planted and early Spring plantings to make excellent growth. In the Northeastern and Western sections of the State much of the Fall sown crop was Winter killed. Harvest in those sections will be started about May 1 to 10 but Spring plantings will not be ready to cut before mid-June.

Strawberry beds throughout the State which were not well covered during the Winter were damaged to some extent by cold and high winds, particularly in the Southeastern sections. Snow cover was generally inadequate in all areas. A dry fall prevented runners from setting and although stands are thin plants are in fairly good condition.

SPINACH PRODUCTION WILL SHOW INCREASE

PLENTIFUL supplies of spinach are expected to be available this Spring in the second early States which comprise Arkansas, Illinois, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Washington, according to the Federal-State Crop Report issued from the State Department of Agriculture. Acreage plantings were increased over those of a year ago and conditions on April 1, indicate that yields per acre will be above average in most areas. A production of 3,244,000 bushels now in prospect compared with 2,424,000 bushels in 1941, which is an increase of percent. Some of this production will probably be used for processing, depending on maturity of the crop and market conditions. Cool, wet weather has retarded the crop in many areas and harvest may be later than usual.

TEST 46,456 CATTLE DURING PAST MONTH

DURING March 46,456 cattle were tested for Bang disease under direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to the report to Secretary John H. Light. Of that number 1,212 cattle were found to be infected.

On the Area plan initial tests were conducted on 205 herds comprising 1,539 cattle. The disease was found in 18.5 percent of the herds and in 7.4 percent of the cattle. Under the same plan retests were conducted on 1,234 herds comprising 17,175 cattle of which 16.3 percent of the herds and 2.3 percent of the cattle were found to be infected.

During the month State indemnities amounting to $37,263 and Federal indemnities totaling $29,587 were paid to owners of Bang disease condemned cattle.

During the month a total of 57,186 cattle were tested for tuberculosis of which only 130 cattle were shown to be infected. State indemnities amounting to $4,794 and Federal indemnities totaling $4,694 were paid to owners for condemned cattle.

RECORDS SHOW GREAT DAIRYING ADVANCES MADE IN THIS STATE

EXTENT of the improvement and efficiency in dairying on farms in this State are forcefully shown by records of the Department of Agriculture dating back to 1867, Secretary John H. Light has pointed out. Although the number of cows and heifers on farms which are milked has been registering a steady decrease over much of that period, the amount of milk produced has at the same time been consistently increasing with the past few months breaking all previous records. In the first year of record the number of cattle which were milked is placed at 670,000 and steady increases are recorded until 1906 when the all-time high of 955,000 was reached. From that time a decline occurred, the number fluctuating, between 944,000 in 1907 and 916,000 in 1919 with a few years registering increases over the previous year.

During those periods the number of cattle recorded was those being milked, but during the period since 1920 the estimate is of those kept on farms for milk production and on the latter basis the number on April 1, 1940, was placed at 840,998 which showed a decline of approximately 55,000 below the number five years previously.

The greater efficiency in dairy operation is shown by the fact that over the years in spite of decreases in the number of cattle the amount of milk produced has been registering a steady increase. In 1889 there were 889,000 cows being milked on farms which produced a total of 368,906,100 gallons of milk. In 1910 the number of cows and heifers kept for milk production was 787,861, but the total milk production had reached 411,737,340 gallons. The production has been showing a consistent increase and the latest available figures, which show the total number of cattle kept for milk production on April 1, 1940, to have been 840,998 record the total production for 1939 to have been an all-time high of 493,345,893 gallons.

"This trend," Secretary Light stated, "is the result of several factors resulting from scientific research, the incorporation by the farmer of the knowledge gained into his operations and his development of greater efficiency which has permitted agriculture to continue operations during most strenuous years over the past decade. Improvement of dairy herds has made great strides, this being accomplished by using good producing stock for breeding and through weeding out the low producers. Great developments have been made in feeding practices, which today are a real science and play a most important part in production. The disease control programs of the Department of Agriculture has played a part of inestimable value, not alone as a factor in cutting down the terrific and disastrous losses to the farmer, but as a contribution to the public health as well. The improvement shown in dairying is an indication of the general trend in agriculture, the constant effort being to 'produce two blades of grass where one blade grew before' and has been accomplished under a system of free enterprise. These improvements and developments can continue only if the farmer is unfettered and not bound by edicts."

MEAT INSPECTION IS GREATLY INCREASED DEPT. REPORT SHOWS

INSPECTION of animals slaughtered for human consumption and meat and meat products under direction of the Meat Hygiene Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, has shown great increases during the past three years, according to the reports of Secretary John H. Light. It is shown that the number of animals killed under inspection and carcasses examined increased from 1,018,416 for the years 1936 through 1938 to 1,563,572 for the past three years. The amount of meat examined under official inspection during the past three years was nearly double that of the previous three-year period, showing a total of 106,541,183 pounds. This is also true of organs examined under official inspection, the total being placed at 59,159,290 pounds.

During the latter part of 1940 the killing of poultry was added to the inspection service for the first time, resulting in nearly 10 million pounds of poultry having been killed under inspection during 1941.

The report also shows that at the present time there are 40 slaughtering establishments in this State operating under official inspection.

That the service is continuing on a constantly widening scale is shown by the report for the month of March in which it is shown that 47,946 ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations and 250 carcasses were condemned. A total of 3,646,716 pounds of meat and meat products were examined of which 1,349 pounds were condemned. There were 1,931,884 pounds of organs examined of which 160,032 pounds were condemned. Examinations for sanitation were made in 718 meat establishments.

"This service is purely a public health measure," stated Secretary Light in commenting on the report, "and is of the utmost importance. Meats produced under official inspection assures the health of the animal to be slaughtered for human consumption and the examination of meats and meat products by official inspectors assures the public of purchasing first class products. Through the purchase of inspected meats the public is availing itself of the benefits of this valuable service."

SEASON POTATO WART PROGRAM IS STARTED

POTATO wart eradication work by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture for this season is now under way in the infected areas which are now confined to small sections in Cambria, Somerset, Clearfield, Sullivan, Luzerne, Carbon and Schuylkill counties, with the heaviest infestation existing in Hazleton and the surrounding territory.

One of the areas in Cambria County will be the only one to receive soil treatment for the first time this season, the infestation having been found some time ago and the soil having been prepared during the past year through cultivation and elimination of growth to receive the treatment. In the treatment 25,000 pounds of copper sulphate will be used, about 2,000 pounds being applied to the acre. Later in the season the treated plots will be planted to a variety of potato which is susceptible to the disease and the area placed under quarantine. The susceptible variety will be planted over a period of four years and if after that time there is no evidence of the disease, the quarantine will be lifted.

HIGHER FARM WAGES FORESEEN FOR 1942

IN 1941 farm wage rates advanced sharply and in Pennsylvania the average is 28 percent higher than in 1941. The level of farm wage rates appears to be influenced, among other things, by the level of farm income and the available supply of labor, according to the latest survey. On the basis of the income received by farmers in 1941, prospective income in 1942, and probable labor supply for this year, farm wage rates may average about 20 percent higher in 1942 than in 1941.

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STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY MAY 4 - 1942 DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

VALUE OF PA. FARMS SHOWS STEADY RISE SINCE LOW OF 1933

FARM real estate values in this State show a 17 point rise from the low level of 1933, having shown a gradual recovery since that period, according to the survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. On the basis of the 1912-14 value representing 100, the index is now placed at 95 compared with the 1933 low of 78. According to the survey substantial improvement over 1940 and 1941 is indicated for the current year.

That the demand for farms, while somewhat better than a year ago, will continue throughout the year is viewed with some uncertainty, it is stated. Attractiveness of jobs in manufacturing plants, the ban on rubber tires, high production costs and scarcity of farm labor in many parts of the State are pointed to as important factors restricting sales of farms. On the other hand, small down payments, easy credit terms and forced removal of farmers from areas in which war industries are being located, together with some demand by city residents for small suburban farms, may have a stabilizing effect on the market for farm land, it is suggested.

Values for the country as a whole rose about seven percent during the 12 months which ended March 1, representing the most substantial land value recovery since the depression low in 1933 and marks the end of a five-year period during which the national average was practically unchanged. The preliminary index of average per acre values reported March 1 was 91, compared with 85 a year earlier and 84 on that date in 1940. For the country as a whole values have now reached a level that is nine percent below the pre-World War 1 base, although in 21 states values are now above that base average.

Although the value tendency is upward, attributed in large part to higher current commodity prices and to larger cash farm income, many farmers recall the serious consequences of the high land value levels reached during and immediately following the last war and are said to be using caution in regard to value responses to war-time prices.

NEW AREAS ADDED IN BEETLE QUARANTINE

A RECENT revision of the Federal Japanese Beetle Quarantine made slight changes in the regulations in Pennsylvania, Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture has announced. The quarantined area was extended to include the City of Meadville in Crawford County where numerous beetles were collected during the beetle season of 1941. In the southeastern corner of the State an area known as the general or heavy infested district was enlarged to include the following areas: Lower Mount Bethel, Allen, and East Allen townships in Northampton County; North White Hall in Lehigh County; Heidelberg, and Lower Heidelberg in Berks County; the townships of Upper Allen and the boroughs of Lemoyne, and Mechanicsburg in Cumberland County; Manchester, and Springersbury in York County.

Soil free rooted cuttings and fresh manure have been added to the list of exempt articles. Restrictions on the movement of cut flowers are now confined to shipments moving from the heavy or general infested area. In this same area the movement of fruits and vegetables is also restricted. Fruits and vegetables within the area of general infestation must be certified for movement when they go forward in carload lots or truck load lots between June 15 and October 15. The restrictions on the movement of cut flowers extends from June 15 to October 15.

The restrictions on the movement of nursery stock remain the same as in previous years. This restriction applies to all the quarantined area of the State.

Spinach Acreage

The acreage planted to spinach in Pennsylvania last year was 2,000 acres and preliminary reports place it at 2,200 this year. The yield last year was 310 bushels to the acre and indicated yields this year are 330 bushels to the acre.

ANOTHER REDUCTION FOR PA. WHEAT CROP

INDICATIONS on April 1 pointed to a Pennsylvania wheat crop this year of 15,900,000 bushels compared with 16,712,000 bushels last year, according to the reports of the Department of Agriculture, issued by Secretary John H. Light. The production compares with an average of 19,229,000 bushels for the years from 1930 to 1939. The indicated yield is 20 bushels per acre compared with 20.5 bushels last year and the 1930-39 average of 19.2 bushels.

No estimates are yet available for the production of rye but the condition of growth on April 1 indicated it to be 87 per cent of normal compared with 83 percent on the similar date last year and the 1930-39 average of 78 percent. The condition of pastures is reported to have been 83 percent compared with 81 percent last year and the 10-year average of 78 percent.

Although during the season as a whole there was not much snow protection for the Fall-sown grain crops, reports show that there was a coverage during the periods of the most severe temperatures which brought the stands through the Winter in above average condition.

ONLY SLIGHT CHANGE IN STOCKS OF GRAIN ON FARMS IN PENNA.

THERE is not much variance in the percentage of the principal grain stocks on farms of this State on April 1 from that on the similar date last year according to Department of Agriculture reports issued by Secretary John H. Light. The report shows that on that date stocks of corn on farms amounted to 17,866,000 bushels or 42 percent of the previous year's crop, compared with 17,281,000 bushels on April 1, 1941 which was also 42 percent of the 1940 crop. This total compares with the yearly average from 1930 to 1939 of 16,245,000 bushels or an average of 40.5 percent of the previous year's crop.

Stocks of wheat show a slight decline, the amount on farms being placed at 3,717,000 bushels or 22 percent of the 1941 crop compared with 4,065,000 bushels on April 1 last year, or 23 percent of the 1940 crop. This compares with the 10-year average of 4,064,000 bushels or 21.1 percent of the crop of previous years.

There is also some decline in the stocks of oats on farms, the total being 11,484,000 bushels or 38 percent of the 1941 crop, compared with 11,788,000 bushels on April 1 last year, or 40 percent of the previous year's crop. The 10-year average was 10,447,000 bushels or an average of 39.9 percent of the previous year's crop.

It is pointed out, however, that although there is only slight variance from last year in the amount of stocks on farms, the situation differs from that of the similar period last year in that farmers have increased the number of cattle to be fed and are also feeding heavier for milk production than in the past. In spite of the heavy rate of feeding livestock, grain stocks are considered to be relatively large.

According to the last survey Pennsylvania grain fields planted last Fall are showing promise of producing good crops this season. However, because of prices of feeds having advanced out of proportion to the prices received for dairy and poultry products, reports indicate that some farmers already have reduced or are planning to reduce their herds and poultry flocks.

CONTAMINATED SOILS CAUSE SHEEP LOSSES

FARMERS are urged by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to take every precaution against the stomach worm in sheep which is a cause of great losses. Since the infestation is usually acquired from contaminated pastures and sometimes from contaminated water and feed, it is urged that wet, low pastures not be used as grazing lands and avoid the continuous use of the same pastures for successive groups of sheep as vacated pastures lose a large part of their contamination during one year if not in use. It is also urged that ewes and lambs be separated after weaning and to give the cleanest pastures to the lambs.

ALL RECORDS BROKEN DURING PAST SEASON BY GRADING SERVICE

GRADING of fruit and vegetable crops for canning under the program of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture showed tremendous increases last year, registering a new high mark for the 15 years of the operation of that service, according to reports of Secretary John H. Light. During the past Summer and Fall seasons 312,405,000 pounds of canning crops were graded by State licensed inspectors which was an increase of 50 percent over the volume graded during the 1940 season and 43 million pounds above 1939, the previous record year.

Inspection of tomatoes for canning which reached the new high mark of 149 million pounds, accounted for nearly half of the total volume. Apples inspected were second on the list in volume, the total having reached nearly 107 million pounds which was also a new record, the previous high mark having been more than 78 million pounds in 1939. Other crops to set new high marks the past season were berries, cherries, corn, peas, plums and snap beans.

The department has issued a report of the cannery inspection program covering the 1941 season which gives comparisons with previous years, acreages planted to the various crops, yields, prices and grades of leading cannery crops. Copies of the report are available upon request to the Bureau of Markets, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

The grading program has greatly aided Pennsylvania growers and canneries in furnishing a fair basis for both buying and selling of products. Growers of high quality products are assured of premium returns, each grower being compensated according to the quality of his products. At the same time canners benefit by increased demands as a result of the public being assured of receiving definitely established quality in the finished product.

In commenting upon the report Secretary Light stated that "the phenomenal growth of grading products demonstrates the value of an unbiased State service to assist growers and canners in official grading which has resulted in greatly increased acreages in cash crops for farmers and expanded cannery plant capacities. The fact that Pennsylvania has now become one of the leading cannery states of the country testifies to the worth of this service and its factor in the development of fruit and vegetable production in this State."

PULLET ENGAGES IN ALL-OUT PRODUCTION

A BARRED Plymouth Rock pullet in the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test conducted by the Department of Agriculture is meeting the challenge for war production by registering an outstanding record, having produced an egg on each of 76 consecutive days to date and still going. The eggs have averaged above 24 ounces per dozen, the standard weight. The total production of the pullet is 154 eggs for the 196 days of the current test.

Records show that 50 days of consecutive egg production is an unusual rate of lay, the general cycle being four days of consecutive production, skip a day; three consecutive days of production, skip a day; two days of consecutive production, skip a day and then reverting to the beginning of the cycle.

MILK PRODUCTION IS BREAKING RECORDS

MORE milk was produced on United States farms on April 1 this year than has been previously recorded for that date. Milk production per cow on April 1, while only slightly greater than a year ago, was record high for the date. Egg production on April 1 averaged 57.6 eggs per 100 layers. This was exceeded only by the record April 1 high of 57.9 eggs in 1938. The aggregate of the first of the month layings from January to April, inclusive, is the largest of record.

Barley Production

In value of the crop, Pennsylvania ranks 10th among all the states in barley production. The value last year was $2,241,000.

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PENNA. RANKS AMONG LEADING STATES IN HONEY PRODUCTION

THE honey bees are now busily engaged in preparations for the production of this season's honey crop, gathering nectar and pollen from the elders, elms, maples and other early blooming flowers which are used for sustaining the older bees and the rearing of the young and the building of combs to be in readiness for the production later in the season of the honey which is gathered for human consumption, the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture points out.

Pennsylvania ranks among the five leading states in the number of colonies. The majority of beekeepers keep from five to 10 colonies of bees, but the commercial beekeeper must maintain 200 or more colonies to produce a sufficient crop for profitable returns. The largest beekeepers in this State own from 300 to 200 colonies.

The process of honey production which has never been duplicated by artificial means is an interesting one, the Bureau points out. The bees gather the nectar from the flowers and carry it to their hives in their honey sacs which are separate from the stomachs. They make six to eight trips a day and many gleaners are necessary to carry in a crop of honey. The mouth and legs are specially formed for extracting nectar from the flowers, building wax cells, feeding the young and protecting the hive from intruders. Even the hairs on the body and legs are equipped with spines to hold pollen for use in feeding the young bees. The honey bee flies long distances with a full load of honey and pollen and becomes worn out in a few weeks time during the honey gathering season.

The thin nectar gathered by the bees is deposited in the honeycomb and the excess water is evaporated by the worker bees which keep up a constant fanning with their wings driving out the moisture laden air which is replaced by drier air from the outside. After a sufficient amount of moisture is driven off the honey is capped by the bees and ready for use.

A colony cannot produce a surplus for the owner unless there are from 50,000 to 75,000 bees in the hive. A queen is capable of laying several thousand eggs a day, which permits of a heavy build-up of the hive population. A considerable amount of honey and pollen is utilized by the bees to build up to the required strength, in fact a great deal more honey is consumed by the colony to maintain itself than is gathered for human consumption. The honey used in the early season for colony maintenance is not of high quality for table use.

Young bees reared during April and May will be honey gathering bees in June and it is therefore urged that conditions permit the queens to lay the required number of eggs to assure the necessary number of worker bees for the honey gathering season. Combs should be examined and those with excess drone brood removed and replaced with better combs or full sheets of foundation. Combs should be straight and easily removed and guard against disease in the brood nest.

It is suggested that every effort be made to produce honey crop since honey is a substitute for sugar for every purpose.

MANY CANNED GOODS ON RESTRICTED LIST

CANNED mushrooms are taboo under the war regulations, tin cans not being available for that product, according to information received by the Department of Agriculture. In addition to mushrooms, baked beans, spaghetti, potatoes, dry soaked lima beans and corn, apple juice and a number of other products are on the restricted list of canned products for which cans cannot be used under the regulations which are designed to conserve tin.

Indications are that the Berks-Lehigh cooperative apple juice cannery which was established less than two years ago and which met with outstanding success could not be operated because of the difficulty to procure cans.

The Pennsylvania mushroom canning industry produces approximately four-fifths of the total United States production of canned mushrooms.

PLAN BIG INCREASE IN TOMATO ACREAGE

AN increase of 25 percent in the acreage to be planted by Pennsylvania farmers to tomatoes for canneries over that of last year is indicated in reports to the State Department of Agriculture according to Secretary John H. Light. The acreage last year was 20,400. Indicated plantings for this year will comprise 26,400 acres.

This great increase is the answer of the Pennsylvania farmer to the request for increased production of food for canning which is an important part of the war effort and is being planned in the face of farm labor shortages which may cause considerable concern during the harvest season.

Setting of plants will be begun about the second week in May. The leading tomato producing counties are Bucks, Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon, Adams, Franklin, York, Cumberland, Columbia, Union, Lycoming, Erie, Montour, Mifflin, Juniata, Chester and Schuylkill.

Secretary Light stated that about 90 percent of the entire tomato production will be purchased by the canneries on the basis of official grades under Federal-State inspection supervised by the Bureau of Markets of the State Department of Agriculture.

CONTROL OF DISEASE IN PLANTS IS VITAL DEPARTMENT SERVICE

IMPORTANCE of the program of control of plant diseases and the great growth and advancement of that service over the past few years are impelling factors in a report of Secretary John H. Light of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture which shows the progress of the activities of the various bureaus of that department.

Control of plant diseases, operated by the Bureau of Plant Industry covers a wide range of activities and the intensity with which the programs are promoted has in several instances held in check conditions which could easily have become disastrous.

Notable in this respect, it is pointed out, is the Gypsy Moth Control program through which this disastrous pest has been prevented from extending its ravages beyond the area in which it was originally found in this State. This has been possible only through the most intensive efforts executed under a well-directed program.

As stated by Secretary Light, "Control of the Gypsy Moth is not alone a Pennsylvania problem as it prevails to a far greater extent in the New England states where the damage annually runs into the millions of dollars. Spread of the gypsy moth beyond the barriers established under the control program is a constant menace."

Facing these conditions the Department of Agriculture instituted a plan of enlisting the cooperation of a number of states under which this far-reaching problem and danger will be presented to Congress with all possible data, facts and statistics for the purpose of procuring Federal appropriations for combatting more intensively this destructive pest and preventing its breaking through the present barrier zone to implant itself over other areas from which its spread could be rapid and exceedingly disastrous.

A considerable portion of the gypsy moth control program is carried out with WPA labor, the procuring of which under assignment by that Federal Bureau is uncertain and has been over the past year increasingly difficult. "It can, therefore, be seen," stated Secretary Light, "that this vital work must be placed upon a more definite basis since a let-up in effort may result in a break by the moth which could soon be beyond control. But this effort is not the responsibility of any one state."

During the past three years, according to the report, under the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture gypsy moth program, 339,054 acres of land were scouted; 394,823 egg clusters were destroyed; 106,115 shipments of materials from infested areas were quarantined; 6,088 acres were sprayed; 7,961 residential properties in the affected areas were sprayed; 4,543 isolated trees in those areas were sprayed, and 393,428 larvae and pupae were destroyed.

RECORD LEVELS ARE BEING CONTINUED IN PRODUCTION OF EGGS

EGG production on Pennsylvania farms continues the upward trend, according to reports of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued from the State Department of Agriculture, having reached the third highest mark in production per layer on record for April 1 and shattering total production records for the past four years during which those records have been compiled. March production was 14 percent more than that during March of last year. War production goals set for this State call for a nine percent increase this year over 1941. During the first quarter of this year production for the State was slightly better than 12 percent greater than during the first quarter of 1941.

Throughout the country as a whole egg production established a new high record for the month. The number of layers in farm flocks April 1 was at peak levels and the average rate of lay per hen also reached a new high March record. Production of eggs in the first quarter of this year was 16 percent greater than during that period last year. The output of chicks by commercial hatcheries during March was also the largest on record.

In Pennsylvania there was an increase from 14,246,000 layers on farms in March, 1941, to 15,750,000 in that month this year, the total egg production being given as 261 million eggs for the month compared with 229 million eggs in that month last year. The monthly number of eggs per layer rose from 16.1 a year ago to 16.6 in March this year.

The steady rise in feed costs in this State which began last March is said to have been interrupted. However, because of the decline in egg prices, the number of eggs necessary to equal in value the cost of 100 pounds of feed has been increasing and for March was approximately 104 eggs compared with 95 eggs in February.

Because of a much earlier hatch this year, the number of young chickens on the Nation's farms April 1 was 16 percent more than on that date last year. This may not indicate the probable size of the 1942 crop because last year's hatching season was unusually long, extending into June. If feed prices should rise faster than chicken and egg prices, the demand for chicks will decrease and the hatching season will end earlier this year. The production of commercially hatched chicks for the first three months of the year shows an increase of 19 percent over the output of the same period last year. Much of the March increase in chicks hatched was for egg laying purposes. In certain commercial areas, the demand for chicks for broilers and fryers has been slow since the first of the year. Some hatcheries in the large commercial broiler areas in the East averaged 40 percent fewer chicks hatched in March this year than last. With emphasis being placed on egg production this year, hatchery operators for the country as a whole reported a slight gain in the proportion of light breeds compared with last year. The big question before the hatchery industry now is whether the present strong demand for chicks will continue into May and June. Orders on April 1 were 41 percent larger than on the same date last year.

CANNERS WILL MEET INCREASED DEMANDS

PENNSYLVANIA canners have completed plans to meet all requests for increased supplies of canned goods for war purposes if production goals are met, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. This assurance is made possible through additions to canneries and facilities and extensions to the canning lines.

The canners have reported success in contracting for the required acreage of peas and tomatoes for meeting the requests for war needs, both of which show large increases over any previous year. The greater number of acres have been procured by contracting with a larger number of growers rather than the regular growers having increased their acreages. The regular growers generally were fearful to plan for increases because of the uncertain farm labor situation.

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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INSECT CONTROL IS NECESSARY PHASE OF VICTORY GARDENING

NECESSITY of controlling garden insects if any degree of success is be attained in the vegetable garden is ing stressed by the Bureau of Plant dustry of the Department of Agricul- re. It is pointed out that unless this ase of gardening receives careful at- ntion, many of the persons who have ined the Victory Garden effort will meet h disappointment.

Control of insects should begin shortly er the plants are through the ground is pointed out by the Bureau specialists. sects employ two methods of attack, e by eating a part of the leaf surface the other by sucking the juice from me part of the plant. Those chewing t a part of the plant and swallowing include the Mexican bean beetle, potato etle, cutworms, grasshoppers, flea etles and the cucumber beetle. Notori- s among the sucking insects are plant e and scale insects.

To control the chewers some poison is ually applied to the plant. Arsenate of d Paris green and magnesium arsenate e successfully used in many cases, but y have a detrimental effect upon the liage of some garden crops, of which n foliage is an example. Magnesium enate, however, when well applied, trols the bean beetle and does not mage the plant. Tobacco extracts have g been recognized as the most satis- tory materials for the control of the king insects.

In recent years two materials of much rth have been developed. One is made m the finely divided flower heads of plant belonging to the chrysanthemum mily and is known as pyrethrum. The er is made from the roots of certain ical plants including derris and cube. e roots contain a substance known as enone. Both these materials kill some wing and sucking insects when used directed but are not harmful to animals humans. For this reason pyrethrum, enone and tobacco extracts are favored garden use.

Since the materials are sold under trade es, it is urged that assurance be had the mixture purchased contains at t three-fourths of one percent of enone. This dust is effective in con- ling cucumber, Japanese and flea bee- cabbage worms and certain plant It should not contain arsenic but contain dusting sulphur. Pyrethrum sed to control certain cabbage worms leaf hoppers but sunlight soon causes lose its killing power.

Treatment should be given as soon as cts are detected and it is well to spray precautionary measure. Early action kill the bean beetles before they can their eggs. Magnesium arsenate or enone as a dust or spray are effective. enone dust of one percent strength is ective against the flea beetles on to- o and potato plants. Bordeaux spray be effectively used as a combination y for plant disease and insect control.

TEST 49,824 CATTLE FOR BANG DISEASE

TESTS for Bang disease during April by the Bureau of Animal Industry the Department of Agriculture, cov- 2,685 herds comprising 49,824 cattle, ding to the reports to Secretary H. Light. Of the total number of tested 1,389 or 2.7 percent were d to be infected. Infection in herds 21.6 percent.

Including the tests made during the past there are now 73,435 herds com- g 639,996, or approximately half the number of cattle in this State, under vision by the Department in the disease control program.

ring the month State indemnities paid for 1,288 condemned cattle nting to $41,929.76 and Federal in- ities totaled $30,963.

Production 66.59 Percent

duction in the Pennsylvania Official Laying Test for the 30 weeks of eration was 66.59 percent, bringing tal production for the 1,105 com- birds to 152,289 eggs of an average of 24.30 ounces per dozen. The e number of eggs per bird was

APIARY INSPECTION FOR THIS SEASON TO COVER 25 COUNTIES

APIARY inspection for this season was begun the first week in May by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture which will bring to completion the three-year program inaugurated by Secretary John H. Light, under which the entire State will undergo complete inspection every three years. Previously the work was done without a well defined program which resulted in some sections of the State not having inspections for periods of from five to six years.

Under the new program the State is divided into three areas, each of which undergoes inspection each year. The first operations this season involve follow-up work to check upon cases in the area inspected last year which were ordered to make changes to learn if the changes have been made. In many instances the beekeeper has notified the Bureau that orders given at that time have been complied with.

This season's inspection will cover the Eastern section of the State comprising 25 counties. Three of the counties in the area were inspected last year with funds provided by the County Commissioners of those counties but they will be included in the Bureau inspection this year. They are Montgomery, Lehigh and Columbia. In the entire area there are approximately 8,000 apiaries comprising 60,000 colonies of bees.

Inspections are made for disease and types of hives, it being pointed out that box hives and all hives from which frames cannot be removed to permit inspection are illegal.

The counties to be inspected are Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Pike, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Luzerne, Carbon, Monroe, Dauphin, Lebanon, Schuylkill, Berks, Lehigh, Northampton, Lancaster, Chester, Montgomery, Bucks, Delaware and Philadelphia.

MILK PRODUCTION IS BEING MAINTAINED AT RECORD LEVELS

MILK production in Pennsylvania is continuing at the high rate established as the result of requests for more dairy products for the war effort, according to reports of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light of the State Department of Agriculture. During March the average production per cow in this State reached a new high record for the fourth consecutive month and on April 1 was 19 pounds. That farmers are continuing the effort for greater production is indicated by the reports which show no reduction in the feeding of grain and concentrates. The outlook for high production is good in view of the fact that the condition of pastures for the State as a whole at the beginning of the month was 83 percent of normal which was even better than the excellent start made last year when the season was most favorable.

Feed prices remained steady during the month and supplies of grains on farms on April 1 was only slightly less than those on the similar date last year but would probably show a less favorable comparison if made on an animal feed-consuming unit basis. The disappearance of grain stocks on farms has been three percent more in the first quarter of 1942 than in 1941, due to higher rates of feeding and the greater numbers of livestock on farms.

Milk production throughout the country during March also continued at the high rate, showing four percent over a year earlier and continuing at about the same high level as in recent months compared with the corresponding periods of last year. Increased numbers of milk cows on farms, together with milk weather in most of the country and heavier than usual feeding of grain and concentrates contributed to the maintenance of the high production level.

Production of evaporated milk and cheese continue at high levels and the output of dry skim milk is also greater than last year. Butter production is still about eight to 10 percent below last year's figures.

SEED CERTIFICATION REACHES HIGH MARK DURING PAST SEASON

EXTENSION by the Department of Agriculture over the past three years of the seed certification service which is operated by the Bureau of Plant Industry, has reached unprecedented levels according to a report issued by Secretary John H. Light in which it is declared that the wider development of this service assures progressive improvement in the field crops of this State.

Among the noteworthy advancements is that made in the certification of seed potatoes which has been a great factor in Pennsylvania having attained an important position as a potato growing State. The extent of the growth of certification of that crop is shown in the report which lists a total of 238 growers having entered their crops for certification during the three years from 1936 to 1938 compared with 369 growers during the following three-year period. The crops of 171 growers passed the inspection during the first period compared with 229 growers having qualified during the latter period, indicating great improvement in seed production. During the first period a total of 3,289 acres were entered for certification compared with 4,623 during the period from 1939 to 1941. During the latter period 638,422 bushels of potatoes were certified for seed compared with 586,140 bushels during the 1936-38 period.

It is also pointed out that in the marketing of the Pennsylvania potato crop noteworthy progress has been made in selling potatoes under grades promulgated by the Department of Agriculture Inspection Service with the result that the demand for Pennsylvania potatoes has greatly increased.

It is stated that as a safeguard to prevent this important division of agriculture falling prey to the disastrous potato wart, the Department has a well-defined program for the control and final eradication of that disease, which is rigidly enforced. That this program has accomplished the purpose it was designed to serve is shown in the fact that the disease has been confined entirely to household gardens, no commercial enterprise having been affected by the disease. It is also pointed out that further success of the program is proved by the fact that as the result of soil treatment and supervised plantings, the disease has been wiped out of 16 affected areas since 1938 and it has not developed in any other areas. It is suggested that the importance of this effort must be appreciated when it is realized that 90 percent of the Pennsylvania potato crop consists of varieties which are susceptible to potato wart.

In commenting upon the progress being made, Secretary Light stated that "the planting of proved seed is necessarily a foremost requisite in successful farming and the advancement being made in seed certification is absolute assurance of progressive improvement in the field crops of this State and a nearer approach not alone to successful crops but to greater yields and therefore increased economic advantages to the farmer."

TENT CATERPILLAR NUMEROUS IN EAST

AS a result of the existence of favorable conditions for its development during the past Winter and this Spring the Eastern tent caterpillar is reported to be unusually numerous over the Eastern section of this State, according to the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The Bureau urges that intensive efforts be made for the destruction of the pest to prevent its spread and damage to trees.

The simplest method of control, it is stated is to remove the nests by hand and crush them in the early morning or late evening when the caterpillars are in the nests. They are also in the nests on wet, cool days. Trees sprayed with one and one-half pounds arsenate of lead in 50 gallons of water will be protected against the ravages of the insect. Use of the flaming torch for the destruction of the pest is also used, but the Bureau warns that care must be used as permanent damage may be done to the tree if the torch is left at one place sufficiently long to injure the bark.

The natural enemies cannot be counted upon this year to control the insect.

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PREMIUMS PAID AT FARM SHOW REACH NEW HIGH FIGURE

F the total of $42,558 offered in cash prizes to exhibitors in the competi- classes at the 1942 Pennsylvania rm Show, a total of $34,653.50 was d in awards, Secretary of Agriculture hn H. Light, who is chairman of the rm Show Commission has announced. e reason for the discrepancy between amount offered and the amount paid that there were not a sufficient number prize winners in some of the classifica- ns. The sum paid reached an all-time h, comparing with $34,491.25 last year ich was the previous record.

Entries for the 1942 show in all com- tive classes totaled 10,939.

The amounts of cash awards paid by sses were as follows:

rses	$2,935.00
eep	2,952.00
ine	2,302.00
f Cattle	4,131.00
ry Cattle	8,015.00
k	189.00
n	747.00
all Grains	194.00
atoes	439.00
Corn Judging Contest	108.00
Potato Judging Contest	108.00
bacco	207.00
ples	1,527.00
ble Nuts	32.50
etables	529.50
ple Products	162.00
ary Products	544.00
ol	173.00
gs	411.00
by Chicks	64.00
eed Turkeys	67.00
ltry	5,527.50
me Economics—Foods	682.00
me Economics—Clothing	668.00
me Management	334.00
rts & Horsepulling	415.00
e Vocational Demonstration Contests	600.00
e Vocational School Exhibits	590.00

EAVY LOSSES SHOWN N HANDLING CATTLE

CCORDING to statistics compiled on a nation-wide basis losses incurred ally through the faulty handling of stock produced for human consump- amount to at least 14 million dollars, rding to the Department of Agricul- It is stated that one animal of every n animals slaughtered in plants oper- under government inspection con- bruises, causing the bruised parts to e no meat value. Most of the bruises said to be on the hindquarters and s the back which are the parts of animal from which the meat of hest value are obtained. Estimates of losses from bruises alone are placed nine million dollars annually. Crip- and death of animals during ship- t cause another loss of at least three lion dollars and other losses, such as th after arrival at the stockyards and ghter houses and inside bruises to s are placed at two million dollars. ses caused by cuts, holes and other age to hides, many of which are not ected until the hides are made into her, account for an additional $700,000 ally.

It is stated that many bruises are sed in the feeding lot on the farm well as in the course of shipment and is urged that every care be exercised cattle raisers to guard against these ses which ultimately are borne by the stock producer.

63,796 LICENSES ARE ISSUED DURING MO.

TOTAL of 63,796 dog and kennel licenses were issued in this State ng the month of April, according to report of the Dog Law Division of Bureau of Animal Industry of the artment of Agriculture. There were 200 prosecutions conducted during month for dog law violations.

cense fees and fines during the month nted to a total of $80,030.

total of 3,180 stray and uncontrolled were killed by police officers and dogs were killed by agents of the eau. There were 100 claims entered damage to livestock and poultry ed by dogs in which a total of $1,453 paid by the State in settlement.

Marketing Spinach

keting of Wintered-over spinach the Southeastern area is reaching volume. The crop has made ex- nal growth and is of excellent ity. The Spring planted crop is also ted to be in excellent condition.

MORE PERSONS ARE WORKING ON FARMS

ACCORDING to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service survey, issued by the State Department of Agriculture, 262,000 persons were employed on April 1 on Pennsylvania farms which is estimated to be about 3,000 persons greater than were engaged in farm work on the comparable date last year. The total employment is divided into 200,000 family workers and 62,000 hired workers. The average wage rate with board was $37 per month compared with $29.50 last year and the rate without board was $60 compared with $46.25.

The supply of farm labor was placed at 53 percent compared with 69 percent last year and the demand stood at 101 percent compared with 94 percent a year earlier.

Part of the increased employment, which is the reverse of the condition throughout the country which shows one percent fewer persons working on farms than a year previously, it is suggested, might be accounted for through the employment of two persons to do the work formerly done by one person, because of them being in the younger or older age brackets.

APRIL TESTS REVEAL NEW LOW INFECTION OF TB IN PA. CATTLE

OF a total of 23,568 cattle tested in this State during April for tuberculosis, only 50 cattle were found to be infected with the disease according to reports to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The tests covered areas in Mercer, Franklin, Erie and Butler counties and the number of infected cattle was the lowest for the number of cattle tested ever encountered under the tuberculin program.

A total of $3,485 was paid during the month in State indemnities to owners of condemned cattle in addition to $2,613 paid in Federal indemnities for that purpose. The reports of the Bureau of Animal Industry also show that during the month 611 cattle were imported into this State and 660 cattle were exported.

During the month 5,824 swine were vaccinated against hog cholera on 102 premises, two of the premises having been quarantined because of the presence of the disease. A total of 35 brains of animals were examined at the bureau laboratory for rabies, of which 21 were found to be positive. It was reported that 72 persons and 73 animals were bitten or exposed to rabid dogs in the various localities which included Allegheny, Beaver, Centre, Cumberland, Delaware, Fayette, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

CONSIDER PLANS FOR 1943 PA. FARM SHOW

WITH a great portion of the great Pennsylvania Farm Show building being occupied as a school for mechanics for the Army Air Corps, the Farm Show Commission is faced with the problem of determining in what manner and to what extent that annual agricultural enterprise might be held in 1943. The attitude of the members of the commission was expressed by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, who is chairman of the commission when he stated that "It is thought to be of vital importance that the show be held on some basis to prevent a break in the continuity of the enterprise which has now been held for 26 years without a break and over that period has developed to be the greatest agricultural event of its kind in the country."

It is held generally that if satisfactory plans cannot be made for exhibits that the educational features of the show, which are participated in by more than 30 state-wide agricultural organizations, be continued and that plans be made under which various farm groups can arrange to have their own displays of products if that is desired.

The program committee of the commission has been directed to survey the entire situation and the basis upon which suspension of the show will be avoided and report to the commission for decision as to the course to be followed. The committee plans to confer with representatives of the many farm groups and agricultural organizations to get suggestions and the concensus of those organizations.

ANOTHER DECLINE IS SHOWN IN FARMERS' PURCHASING POWER

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products declined one point during the month ended April 15, according to the survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. A similar decline was registered in March.

While prices paid for farm products dropped, placing the farmers' purchasing power at 99 on the basis of 100 representing the 1910-14 period of normal prices, the prices which farmers pay for the products they must buy advanced a point to 151, leaving a gap of 52 points unfavorable to the farmer.

The index of all farm products compared with the 1910-14 average was as follows: Grains, 122; fruits, 141; meat animals, 169; dairy products, 167; chickens and eggs, 118. Following are the average prices received by Pennsylvania farmers:

		Apr. 15, 1941	Apr. 15, 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$ .93	$ 1.17
Corn	Bu.	.75	.93
Oats	Bu.	.45	.60
Barley	Bu.	.60	.75
Rye	Bu.	.66	.83
Buckwheat	Bu.	.57	.73
Potatoes	Bu.	.60	1.05
Apples	Bu.	.95	1.25
Hay	Ton	9.80	13.90
Hogs	Cwt.	8.00	13.10
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	8.40	10.70
Veal Calves	Cwt.	10.50	13.00
Sheep	Cwt.	4.00	5.10
Lambs	Cwt.	9.40	11.00
Milk Cows	Head	82.00	105.00
Horses	Head	112.00	120.00
Mules	Head	119.00	127.00
Chickens	Lb.	.176	.213
Turkeys	Lb.	.23	.27
Milk, wholesale	Cwt.	2.10	2.50
Milk, retail	Qt.	.116	.130
Butter	Lb.	.32	.37
Butterfat	Lb.	.31	.36
Eggs	Doz.	.222	.270
Wool	Lb.	.38	.43

MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF MEAT EXAMINED

REPORTS of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture show that during the month of April 47,000 ante-mortem and post mortem examinations of animals to be used for human consumption were conducted of which 190 carcasses were condemned. A total of 617 slaughter establishments were examined for sanitation. Examinations were also made of 3,836,022 pounds of meat and meat products of which 1,211 pounds were condemned and 2,116,612 pounds of organs were examined of which 126,968 pounds were condemned.

OFFICIALS ASKED TO ENFORCE DOG LAWS

APPEAL has been made by the Dog Law Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to mayors and burgesses of Pennsylvania to issue orders to the police of their cities and communities to strictly enforce the dog laws as an aid to reduce the damages caused by and the dangers attendant upon dogs being permitted to run at large. It is pointed out that the season is now at hand when stray dogs do much damage to gardens and shrubbery in addition to them being a possible menace to livestock and poultry as well as to persons. Under the dog laws of the State it is the duty of local police officers to take action where dogs are found running at large.

MORE ACRES PLANTED TO GREEN PEA CROP

PRELIMINARY reports to the Department of Agriculture place the acreage planted in Pennsylvania to green peas for processing at 9,500 acres compared with 8,600 acres last year or an increase of 10 percent. The great gains made in that crop in this State are indicated by the records which show that this year's planting are about two and one-half times the 1931-40 average which is placed at 4,400 acres.

Light Strawberry Crop

Indications are that the strawberry crop will be light this year, stands being thin as a result of the dry weather last Fall. Plants which survived and made runners were checked this Spring by lack of moisture.

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VALUE, PRODUCTION OF PENNA. CORN CROP INCREASED

VALUE of the Pennsylvania corn crop in 1941 is placed at $44,691,000 compilations of the State Department Agriculture released by Secretary H. Light. This figure compares h a value of $38,682,000 in 1940. Corn ds all other crops in this State in ue.

Since the acreage planted to that crop 1941 was lower than that planted in 0, the increased value is caused by h higher yields per acre and an in-ase in the average price per bushel. ast year corn was produced on 1,282,000 es compared with 1,322,000 acres in 0. The average yield per acre last r was 41.5 bushels compared with 38 shels a year earlier. Total production placed at 53,203,000 bushels last year mpared with 50,236,000 bushels in 1941 d the average price was 84 cents per shel compared with 77 cents a year lier. Average yield per acre in the ited States was 28.4 bushels in 1940 d 31 bushels in 1941. The average price r bushel was nearly 62 cents per bushel 1940 and nearly 71 cents last year.

Lancaster County holds the lead among the counties of the State by a wide gin in the number of acres planted corn. The acreage is placed at 92,270 t year. York County is second on the with 76,170 acres and Berks County d with 55,920 acres. The smallest eage was in Cameron County where crop was produced on 240 acres, but yield per acre, placed at 45 bushels, ced the county among the leaders in rage yield.

Chester County, with 47,250 acres de-ed to the crop, held the lead in aver-yield per acre, that figure being ced at 49.1 bushels. Lancaster is nd in that list with 48 bushels per e and Northampton is third with 47.5 shels. Average yield in York County s 42.6 bushels and in Berks County 3 bushels. Lowest average yield in 1 was in Cambria County where 8,930 es were planted to the crop and the rage yield per acre was 32.9 bushels. 1940 Lancaster County held the lead average yield per acre, the figure t year being 47.6 bushels. Lebanon nty was second with 45.7 bushels and ster County third with 43.9 bushels.

Surveys made in March showed that mers of this State intended to plant 0,000 acres to corn this year, which ld represent an increase of about e percent over last year.

DOWNWARD TREND IN PRODUCTION OF RYE

A DECIDED downward trend in the production of rye on Pennsylvania rms is shown in the records of the nsylvania Department of Agriculture, cording to Secretary John H. Light. atest surveys place the acreage sown t Fall to that grain at 78,000 acres but e acreage to be harvested is given at ly 56,000 acres. These figures compare h 81,000 acres sown for the 1941 crop d 57,000 acres harvested. The extent the downward trend in the crop is own by the average for the years from 0 to 1939 which shows 128,000 acres n and 103,000 acres harvested. In-ated yield per acre this year is placed 15 bushels which is the same as last r which compares with 14.1 bushels the average for 1930 to 1939. Indi-ons point to a total production this r of 840,000 bushels compared with 0,000 bushels last year and the previ-10-year average of 1,444,000 bushels.

PLOWING, PLANTING NEAR USUAL MARK

RECORDS of the Department of Agriculture show that the per-ge of plowing for Spring planting hed on May 1 on farms in this e was 74 percent which was on par that completed on the similar date 1941. It was three points above the ious 10-year average for that date.

The Spring sowing and planting, how-, lagged below that which had been pleted on May 1, 1941 by two points, figure being placed at 50 percent this e and 52 percent a year earlier. The ious 10-year average is placed at percent.

EXPECT INCREASED YIELDS IN WHEAT

LATEST surveys by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by the Pennsylvania Department of agriculture show that of the 795,000 acres upon which wheat was sown last Fall on farms in this State, 779,000 acres will be harvested, representing an abandonment of that grain on two percent of the acreage. The grain on the abandoned acres is either plowed under or is used for forage. For the 1941 crop 883,000 acres had been sown and 857,000 were harvested, representing an abandonment of 2.9 percent. The average for the years from 1930 to 1939 is 987,000 acres sown and 971,000 acres harvested or an abandonment of 2.6 percent.

Indications point to a large increase this year in the average yield per acre, the figure being placed at 21 bushels compared with 19.5 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 19.7 bushels. The indicated total yield this year is placed at 16,359,000 bushels compared with 16,712,000 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 19,-229,000 bushels.

FEWER TREES TAPPED MAPLE PRODUCTS UP QUALITY IS LOWER

A REDUCTION in the number of trees tapped for maple products in Pennsylvania is recorded again this year, according to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture, but a considerable increase, due to favorable conditions, was obtained over last year in the amounts of sugar and sirup obtained. The decline in the number of trees tapped from the 1941 figure was not as great as in some of the previous years, the number this year being placed at 441,000 compared with 450,000 last year. The previous 10-year average, however, is 622,000 trees, showing a great decrease during the past few years.

The amount of sugar made this year is placed at 40,000 pounds compared with 36,000 pounds last year and the previous 10-year average of 88,000 pounds. The amount of sirup made was 128,000 pounds compared with 112,000 pounds in 1941 and the 10-year average of 178,000 pounds. In terms of sugar the total production is given as 1,064,000 pounds this year compared with 932,000 pounds in 1941 and the 10-year average of 1,512,000 pounds. Average production per tree was 2.41 pounds this year, 2.07 pounds last year and 2.43 pounds during the years from 1930 to 1939.

The season was somewhat better than last year, starting the first week of March and continuing to mid-April. Although the sugar content of the sap generally was not up to normal, much sirup was made, the demand being heavy. Not enough sugar was made to meet the demand. Weather conditions were ideal for operations but were too mild for good quality sirup. Although the run in the Somerset area was better than last year it was below average because of too much rain and warm nights. In the northern tier producing counties the flow was rather free and much sap was reported to have been lost because sufficient labor was not available at all times to handle the production.

MILK PRODUCTION IS STILL INCREASING

MILK production per cow on Pennsylvania farms on May 1 showed a continuance of the upward trend established some months ago, according to records of the Department of Agriculture, the figure being placed at an average of 20.6 pounds compared with 19 pounds a month previously, 19.8 pounds on May 1, 1941 and the previous May 1 average of 17.9 pounds.

There was a decline from 100 on April 1 to 96 on May 1 in the average size of the farm flock of hens and pullets. The number was six above that on May 1 a year previously and was the same as that given for the previous May 1 average. In spite of the reduced number of birds in the flock an increase from 58.6 eggs per 100 hens and pullets of laying age on April 1 was registered, the number on May 1 being placed at 60.7 eggs, which compares with 60.2 eggs on May 1, 1941 and the previous May 1 average of 59 eggs.

BIG ADVANCE NOTED IN INSPECTION FOR GRAIN CERTIFICATION

OUTSTANDING advances in the inspection for certification of cereal grains in this State have been made over the past three years, according to the records of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced. Pointing to the records, Secretary Light stated that "Extension of this service brings a wider interest in efforts to produce better crops and at the same time brings more definitely to the farmer the futility of using poor and untested seed which may result not alone in crop failures but in heavy losses in time and effort since it costs equally as much to sow and plant poor seed as it does to sow and plant tested seed which offers the best possible guarantee of a good crop."

The extent of the development of the service is seen in the records which show that in 1936 a total of 633 acres were entered for certification compared to 4,489 acres entered in 1941, which is an increase of nearly 700 percent. During the three years from 1938 to 1941 the total acreage entered for certification was 11,808 acres, having advanced from a total of 2,991 acres for the previous three-year period, or an increase of more than 500 percent.

An indication of the improvement attained in the seed crops is seen in the fact that during the earlier three-year period 1,732 acres of grain qualified for certification but during the latter similar period 7,839 acres were certified.

Similar advances are shown in other branches of the inspection service, the number of nurseries inspected recording a consistent increase from 876 in 1938 to 1,150 in 1941. At the same time a decline of more than 50 percent has occurred in bramble plant rejections entered for certification, showing an improvement in quality, which would be a consequence of consistent inspection.

The program for the control of black stem rust disease of grain has been pursued vigorously resulting in the destruction of more than four and one quarter million affected bushes during the period from 1938 to 1941 compared with less than three and three quarter million diseased bushes destroyed during the previous three-year period.

PASTURES IN STATE IN FAIR CONDITION

CONDITION of pastures in Pennsylvania on May 1, the date of the last survey by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service was slightly below that which prevailed at the similar period last year, but better than for the previous 10-year average, according to the Department of Agriculture. The same situation prevails in the case of hay.

The condition of pastures is placed at 81 percent compared with 83 percent on the comparable date last year and the previous 10-year average of 76 percent. The condition of hay is placed at 82 percent compared with 86 percent at the similar period in 1941 and the previous 10-year average of 78 percent.

According to the records the stocks of hay on farms in this State May 1 totaled 317,000 tons which was 11 percent of the previous year's crop, compared with 480,000 tons on the comparable date in 1941 which was 14 percent of the previous year's crop and the previous 10-year average of 390,000 tons or 13.1 percent of the previous year's average. The smaller stocks this year are said to be the result of the smaller crop harvested last year which amounted to 2,868,000 tons compared with 3,410,000 tons in 1940 and the previous 10-year average of 2,911,000 tons.

REPORT BIG SUPPLY OF CATTLE ON FEED

REPORTS to the Department of Agriculture show another big supply of cattle on feed lots throughout the country. The total is placed at only two percent smaller on April 1 than a year previously when the largest numbers in recent years were reported. Reports show that about 71 percent of the cattle had been on feed for more than three months and indicated that the proportion to be marketed before July 1 is a little larger this year than last.

TIGHT BINDING TEXT CUT OFF

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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EGG PRODUCTION IS STILL ON INCREASE FLOCKS ARE LARGER

EGG production in Pennsylvania and throughout the country is continuing the war-time stride established some months ago and has set new high marks for April for the number of layers, production per layer and total egg production, according to the Federal-State Crop Reports issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture.

The number of layers on farms of this State during April increased from 13,000,000 a year earlier to 15,055,000 and total egg production in that month this year was placed at 269 million eggs compared with 238 million eggs in April, 1941. The monthly number of eggs per layer increased from 17.5 to 17.9.

During the early part of May feed costs were at practically the same levels which prevailed during March and April. Average prices received by farmers for eggs have also shown little tendency to change from current levels although egg production is at or near its seasonal peak. Movement of eggs to storage has been heavy and on May 1 was 53 percent greater than a year ago. Most of the holdings are commercial stocks.

Prices of live poultry fluctuated irregularly during April according to class, but net changes for the most part were moderately downward, with the month's average slightly below the March level. Lighter marketings of live poultry suggests that poultry is being retained for egg production.

Production for the country in April was 7 percent above the same month last year. The average rate of lay per hen was three percent above last April and together with the nine percent greater number of layers on farms accounted for the high total egg production. The number of chickens on farms on May 1 was 1 percent greater than on the similar date a year earlier. Output of baby chicks by hatcheries during April was 20 percent above last year and about the largest for the month that has been recorded.

GREATER PRODUCTION OF SEEDS EXPECTED

PRODUCTION of 44 out of 50 kinds of vegetable seeds throughout the United States is expected to be larger this year than in 1941 because of increased acreages and yields, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture. Production of seeds, exclusive of beans, peas and sweet corn, may total 31,873,157 pounds compared with 15,520,443 pounds in 1941, representing an increase of 105 percent. The compilations are made from reports of 117 commercial seed growers, who produce in the aggregate 90 percent or more of most of the vegetable seeds.

It is pointed out that the figures are necessarily preliminary since some kinds of seed had not yet been planted or had been planted only in part and it is not possible to make accurate forecasts of production four to eight months in advance of harvest.

INCREASE NOTED IN ASPARAGUS ACREAGE

ASPARAGUS acreage in Pennsylvania shows a three percent increase this year or 3,300 acres compared with 3,200 acres last year, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture. Early indications show that yields per acre are higher than a year ago and 10 percent above the average for the years from 1931 to 1940 of 100 crates of 24 pounds each to the acre. Indicated average yield this year is 110 crates compared with 105 crates last year. The indicated total production this year is 363,000 crates compared with 336,000 crates last year and the previous 10-year average of 266,000 crates from an average of 2,660 acres. The survey last Fall on distribution of plants by age groups showed 47 percent under five years, 35 percent under 10 years and 18 percent over 10 years.

Outlook For Feed Grains

In spite of the great variance in weather conditions, prospects throughout the country at this time, reported to the Department of Agriculture, indicate at least normal production of feed grains this year.

BEGIN INSPECTIONS OF BRAMBLE PLANTS

INSPECTIONS for certification of bramble plants has been begun by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture and growers wishing to sell plants this Fall or next Spring are advised to make application for inspection at once, since it is in violation of the law to sell or offer for sale in this State, any bramble plants unless they are inspected by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced. Plants shipped into this State must have been inspected and certified in the State in which they are grown before they may be legally sold in Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the bramble plant inspection and certification work of the department is to make available to persons who wish to set out plantings, sources of plants that are comparatively free from destructive diseases that frequently result in serious losses to berry growers. In the past it was not uncommon for berry growers to set out new plantings of uncertified berries, only to find that in two years, when they could normally expect a good crop of berries, that they were severely diseased and unproductive.

Many of the diseases that produce seedy berries cannot be detected on the plants at the time they are purchased or set out. By inspecting plantings at various times during the growing season, those considered unfit for the production of plants for setting out new plants are rejected and refused certification.

MORE FARM WORKERS REPORTED IN APRIL

TOTAL farm employment in Pennsylvania on May 1 for the first time this year was noticeably above the same month in 1941 and showed an increase during the month of April of 23,000 workers, according to the Federal-State Crop reports issued through the State Department of Agriculture. The total is placed at 285,000 of which 207,000 are listed as family workers compared with 200,000 on April 1 and 78,000 hired workers compared with 62,000 April 1. The average length of the farm work day of the farm operator is placed at 12 hours and that of the hired worker at 9.8 hours.

The reports show that weather conditions have been favorable for Spring work and farming operations on May 1 were well advanced. In order to take advantage of those conditions, farmers have been working long hours. Demand for temporary or day workers has been growing and boys of school age are the chief source of supply. As the haymaking season approaches it is expected that demand for part-time help will be even further increased, but will not reach the peak before school terms close. Available full-time and experienced farm help continues to be scarce. The situation with respect to these workers is said not to be encouraging particularly if draft board quotas are increased and classification and deferment requirements are made more rigid. Many farmers are reported to be resigned to the employment of unskilled workers and exchange of help with neighbors as the only means of getting the work done. However, it is reported that farm work in general this season is slightly ahead of usual.

URGE VIGILANCE TO PREVENT DISEASES

A WARNING to farmers to take extra precautions against livestock diseases since increased losses from this source may be expected under the stepped-up "food for victory" campaign, has been issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. In the statement it was suggested that "war times always seem to bring an increased danger from all types of diseases, and with the tremendous responsibilities for increased food supplies confronting us, disastrous outbreaks of hog cholera, erysipelas, sleeping sickness, and other major killers of livestock would be particularly serious."

Continuing, the warning states that "it cannot be too strongly urged that farmers procure at once scientific advice and assistance if hogs, sheep, horses, cattle or poultry show any suspicious disease symptoms."

WHEAT PRODUCTION SHOWS CONSISTENT DECREASE IN PENNA.

PENNSYLVANIA farmers produced 16,712,000 bushels of wheat in 1941 which had a total value of $17,715,000, according to records of the Department of Agriculture issued by Secretary John H. Light. The production compares with 17,480,000 bushels produced in 1940 in which year total acreage devoted to the crop and average yield per acre were higher than last year, but a large increase in average price per bushel which rose from 83 cents in 1940 to $1.06 last year, brought an increase in value from the previous year's figure of $14,508,000. Wheat was grown on 874,000 acres in 1940 and on 857,000 acres in 1941. The average yield per acre in the former year was 20 bushels and last year the figure was 19.5 bushels. For the country at large the average acre yield was 16.5 bushels in 1940 and 17 bushels in 1941. The average price per bushel was 69 cents in the former year and nearly 97 cents last year.

As in the case of corn Lancaster County holds the lead among the counties of the State by a wide margin in the number of acres on which wheat was produced during both years, the total for 1940 being 76,870 acres and 76,980 acres last year. That county also held the lead in the average yield per acre with the figure placed at 24.5 bushels in 1940 and 25.9 bushels in 1941. Also as in the case of corn York County held second place in total acreage upon which wheat was produced, the figure being 66,110 acres last year and 69,480 acres a year earlier. Average yield per acre was 22.1 bushels last year and 22 bushels in 1940, which was exceeded last year by Chester County with 24.9 bushels, Delaware, 23 bushels; Bucks, 22.5 bushels and Philadelphia County 22.3 bushels. In the latter county only 270 acres were planted to the crop.

Cameron County with only 10 acres planted to wheat was the lowest in acreage among all the counties. The average yield per acre was 17.2 bushels which was higher than the figure for a number of other counties. The lowest average yield per acre was in Bedford County where the figure is 14.4 bushels where 16,760 acres were planted to the crop. In addition to Cameron County four other counties had less than 100 acres planted to the crop. They were McKean, 30 acres; Pike, 70 acres; Wayne, 60 acres, and Lackawanna, 90 acres.

Surveys made May 1 showed a total of 779,000 acres of wheat to be harvested this year, compared with 857,000 acres last year, and an indicated production of 16,359,000 bushels or 362,000 bushels below last year's production. The small reduction in total production as related to the heavy drop in the acreage is accounted for by the indications which point an average yield of 21 bushels per acre, compared with 19.5 bushels last year.

FARMERS CONTINUE HIGH FEEDING RATE

APRIL marked the fifth consecutive month in which a new high monthly average production per cow was registered by herds on Pennsylvania farms, bringing the figure on May 1 to 20.6 pounds, according to records of the Department of Agriculture announced by Secretary John H. Light. The continued average increase is attributed to the high rate of feeding which has continued in the season when normally there is a reduction in grain feeding.

As pastures show development the rate of feeding concentrates to dairy cows begins to taper off but on May 1 feeding rates were still indicated to be equal to Winter levels. Pastures on the average were supplying about 15 percent of the feed in the dairy ration compared to the usual average of about seven percent. The high yield of pastures and the high rate of grain feeding suggests that milk cows are being fed much heavier than usual at this time of the year.

Milk production for the country as a whole for April, estimated at 10.3 billion pounds, was four percent higher than April, 1941 and continued the same rate of increase over last year prevailing in the first quarter of this year. Production on farms showed more than the usual seasonal rise during the month.

Reports indicate that there are now about three percent more milk cows than at this time a year ago.

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VALUE OF OATS CROP 14 MILLIONS IN MORE ACRES PLANTED

WITH the production placed at 30,222,000 bushels, the value of the 1941 Pennsylvania oats crop is given as $13,012,000, according to records of the State Department of Agriculture released by Secretary John H. Light. This compares with a production of 29,470,000 bushels in 1940 which had a value of $12,083,000.

The average yield per acre on the 876,000 acres devoted to the crop was 34.5 bushels last year compared with an average yield of 35 bushels on 842,000 acres the year previously. The average price per bushel last year was 46 cents compared with 41 cents in 1941.

Crawford County led all the counties of the State in total production with 1,277,200 bushels procured from 31,000 acres which gives an average yield per acre of 41.2 bushels which is also the high mark. Berks County is second among the counties with a total production of 1,135,010 bushels from 33,780 acres or an average acre yield of 33.6 bushels which is followed by Somerset County with a production of 1,072,230 bushels from 32,690 acres or an average yield per acre of 32.8 bushels and Bradford County with a total production of 1,030,040 bushels from 29,770 acres or an average yield per acre of 34.6 bushels. Next after Crawford County, the ranking counties in which high yields per acre were had were McKean with 40.1 bushels; Erie and Mercer, each 39.1 bushels; and Delaware, 38.6 bushels.

Cameron County had the smallest acreage of any County of the State; the total being 180 acres with a total production of 5,580 bushels or an average yield of 31 bushels per acre. The lowest yield per acre was in Fulton County with 26.4 bushels. The acreage was 2,340 acres or a total production of 61,780 bushels.

In 1940 Somerset County led all the counties in total production and Delaware County was first with 40.5 bushels in the average yield per acre.

FRUIT, VEGETABLE PROSPECTS ARE GOOD

EARLY reports to the Department of Agriculture from principal fruit sections throughout the country show rather favorable prospects for apples, pears, grapes, cherries, plums and prunes but in some North Atlantic and North Central States peach buds were badly damaged by Winter and Spring freezes. In the Southern States another large peach crop, somewhat short of last season's record output, is in prospect.

National supplies of commercial vegetables for market are likely to be moderately above those of last year. The vegetable yields per acre estimated to date, however, average somewhat higher than in most recent seasons. The increase in labor costs is being felt in some vegetable producing areas. This may reduce shipments more quickly than usual if market prices decline. The prospective production of vegetables in States usually shipping during May is about 22 percent above last year and is well above average. An expansion of about 20 percent over 1941 is in prospect for 1942 in the aggregate acreage planted to important truck crops for processing. If commercial processors carry out their early season plans, the acreage planted to all vegetables for canning, freezing, and other processing will reach the record high level of about two million acres. A total of 1,693,230 acres was planted to these vegetables in 1941 and during the preceding 10 years the average was 1,007,420 acres. The greatest increase this year is expected to be made in the acreage planted to tomatoes for processing, for canners and tomato products manufacturers plan to increase this year's planted acreage 29 percent over 1941. Green pea processors rank second with a 26 percent increase.

SEE GENERAL RISE IN POTATO ACREAGE

THE acreage in late potatoes, which farmers through the country did not first intend to increase, now seems likely to be about three percent larger than last year. In early March farmers were asked to increase plantings and a recent survey in the principal northern states indicates some increases.

SUGGEST SPRAYS TO PROTECT JUNIPERS

ALTHOUGH Junipers are fairly free from destructive insects and serious diseases, they are subject to attacks which may require treatment to preserve the trees in a desirable state of health and vigor, it is stated by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture in making suggestions for treatments at this time of the year.

The principal insect of the Juniper is the Juniper scale which frequently destroys many fine specimens. It is stated that the most satisfactory spray is that which will destroy the young scale insects which hatch and are active about the first week in June. Two mixtures are suggested as satisfactory. The one is made up of four to eight pounds of hard or liquid soap, one pint of nicotine sulphate containing 40 percent nicotine and 100 gallons of water. The exact amount of soap to be used will depend upon the hardness of the water. For one gallon lots, use a few ounces of soap and one teaspoonful of nicotine.

The other mixture consists of one and one half gallons of summer oil, such as "volck" or "summer mulsion," one pint of nicotine sulphate containing 40 percent nicotine and 100 gallons of water. For one gallon, use one half ounce summer oil and one teaspoonful of nicotine. A second application of either mixture should be made after 10 days. The entire plant should be sprayed as the insect will be killed only if contacted by the mixture.

The second mixture can also be used for the destruction of red spiders or mites which cause the foliage to turn brown or yellow and in heavy infestations may cause death of the plant. The spraying should be done immediately that there are indications of infestation.

Juniper web-worm can be controlled by the use of any spray or dust containing arsenate of lead applied as soon as the first feeding by the insect is noticed. Satisfactory results will be obtained by the use of any dust containing arsenate of lead, such as a mixture of one pound of that material with nine pounds of hydrated lime or nine pounds of clay or any spray containing those materials in the proportion of one and one half pounds to 50 gallons of water. It is suggested that the plants be wash sprayed with water a few hours after spraying with oil or soap mixtures which helps to remove the insects or mites from the infested plants.

Nursery blight or twig blight as it is sometimes called, found frequently on Junipers, is characterized by a dying of the tips of the twigs which turn light tan in color. Young trees may be severely injured and sometimes killed as the fungus extends toward the trunk. By the time the disease becomes noticeable, minute black fruiting bodies become evident as they push through the epidermis of the infected leaves.

The disease is most prevalent during seasons of excessive moisture, especially during the spring months when the new growth takes place. Crowding of plants produces conditions favorable for the spread of the fungus which may continue throughout the season.

To control this disease, prune off and burn the affected twigs late in the Fall or Winter. This should be followed by two or three applications of Bordeaux mixture at two-week intervals starting at the time new growth takes place in the Spring.

BIG INCREASE SHOWN IN NUMBER OF GOATS

RECORDS of the Department of Agriculture show an increase of 30 percent from April 1941 to April this year in the number of goats in this State maintained for commercial milk production. At the present time there are 135 herds consisting of 1,325 goats under supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture for the control of tuberculosis compared with 96 herds consisting of 1,065 goats a year earlier. Of that number 143 herds consisting of 1,303 goats are also under official supervision for the control of Bang disease, indicating that practically all of the goats maintained in this State for commercial milk production are under supervision for the control of those diseases.

COMPILATIONS SHOW CARLOT SHIPMENTS OF PENNA. PRODUCTS

COMPILATIONS issued through the Department of Agriculture show that a total of 3,436 carlot shipments of Pennsylvania fruits and vegetables were made during 1941. In addition to those shipments, motor trucks transported those products from this State to the New York City market in the equivalent to 2,660 carlots and to the Philadelphia market in the equivalent of 7,408 carlots.

In carlot shipments apples head the list, totaling 1,530 cars and tomatoes were second with 1,095 cars. Potatoes follow with 459 cars and peaches are fourth on the list with 292 cars. Other shipments were cabbage, 45 cars; plums and prunes, six cars; dried apples, four cars; beets, three cars, and carrots, two cars.

Apples also hold the lead in carlot equivalent shipments by truck to the New York market with 689 cars followed by peaches with 515 cars. Other shipments to that market were: Asparagus, 137; snap beans, 210; beets, 33; broccoli, 43; cabbage, 58; carrots, 95; celery, 43; green corn, 84; cucumbers, 65; parsnips, 55; potatoes, 7; rhubarb, 26; spinach, 277; tomatoes, 199; turnips and rutabagas, 22; watercress, 27, and miscellaneous, 75 cars.

Shipments to the Philadelphia market were headed by potatoes which accounted for 2,920 cars, followed by apples, 953; asparagus, three; snap and lima beans, 41; beets, 268; broccoli, 27; cabbage, 395; cantaloupes, 11; carrots, 407; celery, 195; green corn, 461; cucumbers, 87; lettuce, 45; parsnips, 75; peaches, 87; rhubarb, 114; spinach, 563; tomatoes, 277; turnips and rutabagas, 254, and miscellaneous, 225 cars.

In carlot shipments of apples Franklin County leads the list with 731 cars and also holds first place in the shipment of peaches with 216 cars. A total of 157 cars of apples and 35 cars of peaches were shipped from Adams County, placing that county second on the list in shipments of those fruits. Lancaster County leads in the shipment of potatoes with 668 cars, followed by York County with 459 cars, Lebanon, 423 and Potter 242 cars.

The importance of the mushroom industry is suggested by the fact that 622 carlot equivalent shipments were made by truck and 212 by express to the New York market and 246 to the Philadelphia market, making a total shipment to those markets alone of the equivalent to 1,080 carlots.

URGE INSPECTIONS OF GRAZING LANDS

AS a result of the recent loss by a Dauphin County farmer of six cows from poisoning while in pasture, the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture has again emphasized the importance of thoroughly checking over grazing lands. The Dauphin County farmer did not suffer the loss from poison plants which are the most common cause of poison deaths of cattle but from a rather unusual source.

Investigation by Bureau agents in that case revealed that paint cans had been thrown or washed onto the pasture land and the cows ate the refuse from the containers, the white lead being poison which caused death. It is urged that farmers inspect their grazing lands for poison plants and also for refuse which might be washed along streams which might traverse pastures. This inspection, it is pointed out should be made periodically to assure against losses of livestock.

GREEN PEA ACREAGE IS INCREASED 20%

PRELIMINARY reports of the Department of Agriculture show a total of 10,300 acres planted this year in Pennsylvania to green peas for processing which represents an increase of 20 percent over the 8,600 acres devoted to that crop last year and an increase of more than two and one half times the average for the years 1931 to 1940. The two varieties, smooth round and sweet wrinkled make almost an even break in acreage, 5,050 acres having been planted to the former variety and 5,250 acres to the latter variety.

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ADVISE PRECAUTIONS IF DOGS SHOW SIGNS OF RABIES DISEASE

DURING the month of May 29 brains of animals were examined for rabies at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, of which 15 were found to be positive. It was reported that 39 persons and 100 animals were bitten or exposed to the rabid dogs in the areas in which they were found, which were in the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Chester, Clarion, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette and Lawrence.

In discussing rabies officials of the Bureau pointed to the necessity, if the infection is to be held in control, of owners of dogs being acquainted with the symptoms and of taking the proper precautions with animals which show signs of being affected. It is pointed out that the disease occurs in two forms, one the furious type and the other the dumb type. The usual first symptoms of a dog which has contracted the furious form is a change in disposition, later becoming uneasy and snapping at imaginary objects. At that stage its bark will be unnatural in tone to an extent which permits identification of the disease by the bark alone by persons versed in the disease.

If the dog is permitted to be at large or breaks loose it will run wild and snap and bite any object, person or animal in its way, and finally after long wanderings, the dog weakens, becomes paralyzed and dies, but in its path it has spread the dreaded virus to both persons and animals.

The dumb form results in paralysis of the jaws of the dog, usually eliminating the danger of biting, but frequently giving the suggestion that the dog has an object in the throat which impels the owner to attempt to release it. This is dangerous in that infection can be caused to the person.

It is urged that immediately a dog is suspected of having the disease medical aid be summoned, but that the dog be strongly confined at once. The heads of suspected animals are sent to the bureau laboratory where a diagnosis is made by specialists and if the disease is found steps are taken at once for the treatment of persons who have been exposed to the infected animal.

COCCIDIOSIS SERIOUS DISEASE OF POULTRY

WITH the vast expansion of the poultry industry, poultrymen are being cautioned by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to follow every possible safeguard against outbreaks of coccidiosis, which is one of the most destructive and prevalent infectious diseases confronting the industry. Observance of strict sanitary rules and avoiding wet and damp conditions in the chicken houses are the best assurances against widespread infections.

The disease is most harmful to chicks from three to 12 weeks of age, following the period of earlier chick diseases such as navel-ill, pullorum disease, bronchitis and brooder pneumonia. Older birds may also be seriously affected by the disease. Outbreaks are most likely to occur in the spring and early Summer, particularly during periods of wet weather.

Fighting the disease is more difficult by reason of the fact that the germ may live under favorable conditions as long as a year or more and be capable of producing the disease in susceptible birds. The germ is easily carried on the shoes, clothes, by insects and other means. It is killed by freezing and by temperatures above 104 degrees but is resistant to the usual coal tar disinfectants. Extreme dryness is destructive to them as is the putrefaction of the matter in which they are contained.

The best guards against the disease are to keep the houses and equipment clean and dry and to have wire screening below the roosts.

BEETS BEING SHIPPED FROM SOUTHEAST

ALTHOUGH few beets have been sown in the Northern part of the State, early bunched beets are now moving to market from the Southeastern counties. Irrigated fields have nice beets, but the wet weather has made beets troublesome.

TESTED SEED VALUE IS SHOWN BY SURVEY

RESULTS of a survey made over a period of years to show the value of planting certified seed for regular feeding grains as well as for future certification have been made known by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture showing yields which more than compensate for the greater cost of purchasing certified seed over ordinary seed in addition to giving greater assurance of a good crop.

The study was made with oats and showed that certified varieties yielded between 3.8 and 10.3 or an average of seven bushels per acre more than a common unselected lot of seed. On the basis of the unselected seed costing 50 cents a bushel compared with 90 cents a bushel for the certified grain, the increased yield gave a net profit of $2.30 per acre greater than that of the ordinary seed, or about 10 percent greater value for the crop.

It is pointed out that the amount of labor is the same in both instances and that when certified seed is once planted it can be kept clean without a great deal of trouble and used for future planting. In advocating the wider use of certified seed it is pointed out that it has been proved from every angle that good tested seed will produce more abundantly, will give greater assurances of a successful crop and that the weed problem is reduced to a minimum. It is urged that certified seed be used for all grains, potatoes, brambles, fruit trees and any other crop that is grown.

ADVISE PROPER USE OF INSECTICIDES TO OVERCOME SHORTAGES

WITH supplies of all insecticides and fungicides affected by the war, the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture suggests methods through which the best use can be made of the materials available. Lead for lead arsenate, copper for Paris green and Bordeaux for arsenic for poisons are all used in defense work and insecticides containing rotenone are becoming more difficult to obtain since the plant roots from which this material is made come from the East Indies which is cut off by the Japs and from South America from which shipping is a serious problem.

The War Production Board has ruled that rotenone may be used only in the production of food crops exclusive of cranberries, eggplant, cucumbers, onions, peppers and sweetcorn, leaving the chief use of that effective spray material in the production of cabbage, beans and tomatoes. The last named are best protected from flea beetles while the plants are small by frequent dustings of rotenone as other insecticides usually cause damage to those plants. Control of worms in cabbage should start soon after the plants are set and rotenone dusts are highly desirable after the heads begin to form. Previous to that time the leaves may be protected by dusting one part with Paris green and nine parts of hydrated lime, by weight of the lime. The plants may also be effectively dusted lightly with undiluted calcium arsenate.

Rotenone may be used in the protection of bean foliage from beetles by using a dust composed of magnesium arsenate, one part by weight with five parts of hydrated lime. Calcium arsenate may be substituted for the magnesium arsenate. Another material known as cryolite, when mixed in the proportion of six parts by weight with four parts of dusting sulphur or talc is an effective control for bean insects. Cryolite should not be used with lime since that combination will cause severe burning of bean foliage. If needed, applications of rotenone should be made after the pods begin to form.

It is further urged that the right material be used for the control of the particular plant pest found on the crop, that applications of materials be complete but not excessive and that they be applied at the proper time to insure the best results from the materials.

Grains, Fruits Promising

In spite of the wet weather corn and oats generally look promising according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. In some sections washing necessitated replanting of corn and oats is yellowing where it is too wet. Fruits are developing rapidly. Pastures are in good condition.

BAGWORM CONTROL IS URGED TO PREVENT HEAVY TREE LOSSES

MEASURES for the control of the bagworm which is a serious pest of shade and fruit trees and which also attacks many other plants, showing preference for black locust, junipers and arborvitae, are given in a circular issued by the Buerau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. It is urged that all trees be inspected particularly at this season and that steps be taken at once to destroy the pests should they be found.

The tree upon which the bagworm is found should be sprayed thoroughly with arsenate of lead at the rate of two pounds in 50 gallons of water. It is important that the spray be applied while the caterpillars are quite small since the species is difficult to control when they become older. One application of the spray is usually sufficient to give complete control if thoroughly applied.

On small trees a fair measure of control may be had by collecting the bags by hand and destroying them. It is suggested that plantings be inspected during the dormant season since the pests are easily detected at that time on deciduous trees. More careful inspection is necessary in the case of evergreen trees.

The bagworm is identified by the baglike structure within which the insect lives during the worm or caterpillar stage. The wingless female, which never leaves the bag, deposits her eggs there which hatch during the latter part of May and early June. The pests feed upon the leaves and at the same time cover themselves with a silken cover attached to small stems and leaves.

The caterpillars and the bags reach their full growth during August and are then up to two inches long and firmly attached to twigs by silken threads. Just before tying the bags the caterpillars become restless and migrate considerable distances taking the bags with them. Frequently they go to other trees in the immediate vicinity.

BARLEY CROP LOWER VALUE IS GREATER

ALTHOUGH the production was 156,000 bushels less, the value of the Pennsylvania barley crop last year was $205,000 greater than in 1940 according to records compiled by the State Department of Agriculture announced by Secretary John H. Light. The total production in 1941 was 3,614,000 bushels from 139,000 acres compared with 3,770,000 bushels from 145,000 acres in 1940. Average yield per acre in each year was 26 bushels, but the average price per bushel advanced from 54 cents to 62 cents.

With 18,410 acres devoted to the crop last year and 18,980 acres in 1940, Lancaster County led all the counties in the State both years in acreage and total production. It also held the lead last year in average yield per acre with 32.7 bushels but in 1940 was crowded out from first place by Delaware County with a production of 30.9 bushels compared with the Lancaster yield of 30.5 bushels. York County held second place both years in acres with 13,000 acres last year and 13,400 acres in 1940. Average yield per acre was 27.3 bushels in 1941 and 17.9 bushels the year previously. Franklin County held third place in acreage both years with 12,110 acres last year and 12,490 acres in 1940. Yield per acre was 23.1 bushels in 1941 and 24.6 bushels in 1940.

In each of the two years Philadelphia, Pike and Forest counties were tied with 10 acres each, the lowest acreage of any of the Counties. The lowest average yield per acre last year was in Forest County with 18.9 bushels. The year previously Warren County was low with 16.1 bushels when Forest County had a yield of 16.2 bushels.

REPORT PRODUCTS IN COLD STORAGE IN PA.

REPORTS to the Department of Agriculture show that on May 1 dairy and poultry products in cold storage in Pennsylvania were as follows: 9,000 forty-quart cans of cream, 4,343,000 pounds of butter, 9,864,000 pounds of American cheese, 166,000 cases of shell eggs, 4,321,000 pounds of frozen eggs and 3,781,000 pounds of poultry.

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF FAIRS SCHEDULED FOR PENNSYLVANIA DURING 1942

THERE will be a reduction in the number of fairs held this year in Pennsylvania, Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light has announced. Of the 88 fairs conducted year eight have been suspended and 68 will be held. Reports have not yet been eived from the remaining 14 organizations.

Fairs which have suspended operations for this year are New Holland Fair, New lland; Bradford County Fair, Towanda; Cambria County Fair, Ebensburg; Myers-wn Community Fair, Myerstown; Annual Allegheny County Fair, Allegheny unty; South Mountain Fair, Arendtsville; Fawn Grove Fair, Fawn Grove; Millers-rg Farmers' Fair, Millersburg. War conditions are believed to be the governing ctors in the suspensions.

In commenting upon the situation faced by fairs this year, Secretary Light stated at he fully appreciated the many difficulties involved which are intensified by the m labor situation which will not permit the average farmer to leave his farm opera-ns when work can be done, and by the rubber and gasoline shortages, but expressed hope that wherever possible the fairs will be continued. "The fair has become a ctor of importance in the life of agriculture," stated the secretary. "It is not only source of diversion but plays a large part in the development of a better agriculture ough the stimulus provided by the many entries and awards for excellence." Con-uing Mr. Light declared that "in spite of the war and the many hardships it imposes, is desirable that the fairs do not fade out of the agricultural picture. During these nes of stress they can make telling contributions to morale as well as continuing the lendid contributions to the advancement of agriculture."

Following is a list of the fairs which will be held this year, including the dates, cations and names of the secretaries:

AIR	LOCATION	DATE	SECRETARY
earfield Co. Fair	Clearfield, Pa.	Aug. 4-8	Wm. Brice, Jr.
oga Valley Fair	Tioga Junction, Pa.	Aug. 6-9	Carl H. Forest
ader Fair & Exposition	Butler, Pa.	Aug. 11-14	C. M. Miller
utztown Fair	Kutztown, Pa.	Aug. 17-22	C. L. Bordner
ercer Central	Mercer, Pa.	Aug. 18-21	J. P. Orr
merset Co. Fair	Meyersdale, Pa.	Aug. 18-21	Clarence F. Rowe
nited Farmers	Abbottstown, Pa.	Aug. 18-22	C. J. Meckley
oy Fair	Troy, Pa.	Aug. 18-22	H. D. Holcombe
ayton Agri. & Mech. Fair	Dayton, Pa.	Aug. 18-22	M. E. Garner
erold Community Fair	Greensburg, Pa.	Aug. 20-22	J. H. Silvis, Jr.
diana Co. Fair	Indiana, Pa.	Aug. 25-28	B. H. Lichteberger
edford Co. Fair	Bedford, Pa.	Aug. 25-29	A. C. Brice
oylestown Fair	Doylestown, Pa.	Aug. 25-29	J. Allen Gardy
st End Fair	Gilbert, Pa.	Aug. 26	J. F. Shiffer
ner Fair	Jennerstown, Pa.	Sept. 1-4	A. O. Lape
rry County Fair	Newport, Pa.	Sept. 1-4	A. K. Ludwig
ttsburg Fair	Wattsburg, Pa.	Sept. 1-5	H. M. Burrows
ntingdon Co. Fair	Huntingdon, Pa.	Sept. 1-5	Kermit L. Laney
ivan County Fair	Forksville, Pa.	Sept. 2-5	J. R. Whiteley
neboro Fair	Stoneboro, Pa.	Sept. 2-7	Walter B. Parker
ene-Dreher Community Fair	Newfoundland, Pa.	Sept. 3-5	Henry G. Botjer
Armstrong Co. Fair	Ford City, Pa.	Sept. 4-7	Walter H. Bowser
iata County Fair	Port Royal, Pa.	Sept. 7-12	J. H. Book
ntgomery County Fair	Hatfield, Pa.	Sept. 7-12	Alton F. Kinsey
ehighton Fair	Lehighton, Pa.	Sept. 7-12	Frank R. Diehl
nesville Community Fair	Linesville, Pa.	Sept. 9-11	O. C. Lance
rford Fair	Harford, Pa.	Sept. 9-11	J. A. Williams
ton Co. Fair	McConnellsburg, Pa.	Sept. 9-12	L. W. Mallott
st End Fair	Laurelton, Pa.	Sept. 9-12	William Bauserman
nsfield Fair	Mansfield, Pa.	Sept. 9-12	Frank Marvin
ungsville Community Fair	Youngsville, Pa.	Sept. 9-12	R. L. Albright
aterford Community Fair	Waterford, Pa.	Sept. 9-12	Ray J. Salmon
ynesburg Fair	Waynesburg, Pa.	Sept. 9-12	Ambrose Bradley
ading Fair	Reading, Pa.	Sept. 13-20	Charles W. Swoyer
k Barren Spring Fair	Pleasant Grove, Pa.	Sept. 14	W. F. Tollinger
oming County Fair	Hughesville, Pa.	Sept. 14-19	Elton B. Edkin
k Inter-State Fair	York, Pa.	Sept. 15-19	John H. Rutter
oming Co. Fair	Tunkhannock, Pa.	Sept. 15-19	B. O. Sheldon
st Lampeter Community Fair	Lampeter, Pa.	Sept. 16-18	W. B. Rentschler
in Grange Fair	Newville, Pa.	Sept. 16-19	E. Lee Oiler
rry Township Fair	Derry, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	J. A. Greubel
shington Co. Agri. Fair	Washington, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	J. R. Henderson
ven Township Community Fair	Cookport, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	F. F. Walker
nboro Agri. Fair	Edinboro, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	N. P. Manners
ar Grove Fair	Sugar Grove, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	T. R. Sponsler
rst County Fair	Tionesta, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	Ida J. Publes
rth East Community Fair	North East, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	Margaret Luebke
artansburg Community Fair	Spartansburg, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	J. A. Whitney
st Alexander Fair	West Alexander, Pa.	Sept. 17-19	Paul Rogers
yne Co. Agri. Fair	Honesdale, Pa.	Sept. 22-25	R. W. Gammell
e Great Allentown Fair	Allentown, Pa.	Sept. 22-26	M. H. Beary
ez Agr'l & Hort'l Fair	Gratz, Pa.	Sept. 22-26	Guy R. Klinger
omsburg Fair	Bloomsburg, Pa.	Sept. 28-Oct. 3	Harry B. Correll
nheim Community Farm Show	Manheim, Pa.	Oct. 1-3	E. A. Auld
llidaysburg Comm. Farm Show	Hollidaysburg, Pa.	Oct. 7-9	Glenn Bressler
rbotville Community Fair	Turbotville, Pa.	Oct. 7-10	Calvin Manges
rt Allegany Community Fair	Port Allegany, Pa.	Middle of Oct.	C. C. Lynch
ntour-Delong Fair	Washingtonville, Pa.	Oct. 13-16	Walter J. Lewis
ysses Community Fair	Ulysses, Pa.	Oct. 14-16	Olive Griffin
xford Community Fair	Oxford, Pa.	Oct. 14-16	Seth T. Burt
rthern Bedford Co. Fair	Yellow Creek, Pa.	Oct. 15-17	Howard F. Fox
rmers & Fruit Growers Fair	Franklin, Pa.	Oct. 21-23	Caleb D. Sutton
wer Mahanoy Comm. Fair	Dalmatia, Pa.	Oct. 22-24	Neal B. Witmer
rrison Cove Community Fair	Martinsburg, Pa.	Oct. 22-24	Ella S. Ebersole
tsburgh Lamb Show	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Oct. 29	Albert J. Roth
nionville Community Fair	Unionville, Pa.	Oct. 29-31	Roland M. Conard
pper Perkiomen Valley Comm. Fair	East Greenville, Pa.	Nov. 18-20	V. S. Ensminger
tsburgh Baby Beef Show	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Dec. 7-9	Albert J. Roth

EGG PRODUCTION 64.68 PERCENT AT LAYING TEST

Egg production in the thirty-sixth week the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying est was 56.54 percent and for the entire riod was placed at 64.68 percent. The al number of eggs produced was 180,119 an average of 163 eggs per bird, the erage weight of which was 24.48 ounces. A pen of Rhode Island Reds entered by ooks Farm ranked first on the list with production of 2,727 eggs and a score of 2,876.40 points. Next in the order of points scored were pens entered by Babcock's Hatchery, J. A. Hanson, Burr's Poultry Farm, Kauder's Pedigreed Leghorns, George M. Anthony and Booth Farms and Hatchery, all of which were pens of Single Comb White Leghorns; E. B. Parmenter, Rhode Island Reds; and a pen of Barred Plymouth Rocks and one of Single Comb White Leghorns each entered by the Dryden Poultry Farm.

1941 PA. CROP VALUE SHOWED INCREASE OF 15 PERCENT OVER '40

VALUE of the principal field and fruit crops in Pennsylvania in 1941 estimated at $155,351,000, compared $135,345,000 for 1940, nearly 15 per-greater, according to the final com-tions of the Department of Agricul-released by Secretary John H. Light. bined production of field and fruit s was two percent below 1940 but l to the average of the past decade. pite a two percent decline in the acre-of field crops harvested, production year was two percent higher than the previous year, mainly because of good corn and tobacco crops. With exception of apples and cherries, production of fruits was under the 1940 records.

Reflecting the adverse effects of the dry season and the labor shortage in some parts of the State, the total hay crop was 16 percent less than the good crop in 1940 and somewhat below the ten-year average. However, farm supplies of other feed crops, aided materially by the favorable outturn of corn and oats, were three percent above the previous year. Production of the cash crops of potatoes and tobacco were two percent above 1940 and also of much better quality.

Prices received by farmers for farm products in December were substantially higher than a year earlier and market demand was firm. This situation was further illustrated by the average value per acre of the various crops in 1941.

FARMERS' COSTS ARE ONE POINT IN EXCESS OF INCOME INDEX

THE ratio of prices received to prices paid by Pennsylvania farmers during the month which ended May 15 stood at 99 figuring the 1910-14 base as 100 which was the same as that during the similar month a year ago, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture, issued by Secretary John H. Light. The index of prices farmers pay for the things they buy stood at 152, showing an advance from 125 on May 15, 1941 and leaving a gap of one point unfavorable to the farmer. Compared with the month previously the index of prices of grains declined one point to 121, fruits advanced 19 points to 174, meat animals advanced two points to 171, dairy products declined three points to 168 and chickens and eggs remained the same at 118.

Although there is a reduction in the amount of farm machinery being manufactured, the average price of horses declined two points to $118 during the month, but is $8 above the price a year earlier. The price is, however, $61 below the average price for the years from 1910 to 1914. Milk cows continued to advance in price, the average on May 15 being $107 compared with $105 a month earlier and $85 a year previously. The average over the 10-year period was $52.22.

Following is the list of average prices received by Pennsylvania farmers:

		May 15, 1941	May 15, 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$ .95	$ 1.15
Corn	Bu.	.78	.93
Oats	Bu.	.44	.61
Barley	Bu.	.62	.75
Rye	Bu.	.67	.81
Buckwheat	Bu.	.60	.78
Potatoes	Bu.	.60	1.05
Apples	Bu.	.95	1.40
Hay	Ton	9.90	13.90
Hogs	Cwt.	8.40	13.20
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	8.50	10.80
Veal Calves	Cwt.	10.50	13.20
Sheep	Cwt.	4.20	5.70
Lambs	Cwt.	9.70	11.90
Mules	Head	116.00	126.00
Chickens	Lb.	.185	.21
Turkeys	Lb.	.22	.26
Milk, wholesale	Cwt.	2.10	2.50
Milk, retail	Qt.	.117	.13
Butter	Lb.	.33	.38
Butterfat	Lb.	.32	.37
Eggs	Doz.	.219	.271
Wool	Lb.	.40	.44

73,683 HERDS UNDER SUPERVISION IN PA. FOR BANG'S CONTROL

OUT of a total of 67,290 cattle tested during the month of May for tuberculosis under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, only 141 cattle were found to be infected, according to the report of Secretary John H. Light.

During the same month 46,398 cattle were tested for Bang's disease of which number 1,437 were found to be positive. There are now a total of 73,683 herds comprising 642,687 cattle under supervision of the Bureau in the Bang disease control program.

Indemnities paid by the State for condemned tuberculin infected cattle during May totaled $3,686.28 and the Federal indemnity amounted to $2,596.73. Bang disease indemnities during the same month amounted to $37,052.46 from State funds and $30,265.57 from Federal funds.

The report also shows that 8,015 swine were vaccinated during the month against hog cholera on 141 premises in various parts of the State. Eight premises were quarantined because of the presence of the disease.

LICENSE 42,906 DOGS DURING PAST MONTH

A TOTAL of 42,906 dog licenses were issued in this State during the month of May according to the report of Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. During that period 250 prosecutions were entered for violations of the dog laws. The total revenue derived from licenses and fines amounted to $54,716.75.

Police officers throughout the State reported the killing of 2,608 stray and uncontrolled dogs and 83 stray dogs were killed by agents of the Department of Agriculture. Claims for damage to livestock and poultry caused by stray dogs totaled 138 for which $2,701.98 was paid as settlement. The State collected $118.75 from owners of dogs which caused damage and settlements made between those making claims for damages and dog owners totaled $475.69.

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JUL 15 1942 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

EGG PRODUCTION STILL BREAKING ALL PREVIOUS RECORDS

THE poultry industry is keeping step with the demand for all-out war production, continuing on the record-breaking course established shortly after requests were made for more poultry products. Egg production in this State continues to top previous high records, according to the reports of the Department of Agriculture, issued by Secretary John H. Light. In May farm flocks, in addition to being the largest for the month on record, were also producing a greater number of eggs than in any previous May on record. Production for the first five months of this year was 13 percent ahead of the same period in 1941. The report shows that during that month this year there were 14,438,000 layers on the farms compared with 12,871,000 during that month last year. Those layers produced a total of 263 million eggs compared with production of 234 million eggs during May last year. There was no change in the rate of lay, which was 18.2 eggs per layer.

The same condition prevailed on a country-wide basis, national egg production on farms during that month registering 16 percent greater than during May 1941 and established a new high record for the month. The rate of egg production per layer also reached a new high record. The number of layers in farm flocks exceeded all previous May marks and number of young chickens on farms June 1 were the largest in 12 years, reflecting the exceptionally large hatchings in April and May. Chick hatchings during the first five months of this year were 16 percent larger than the record made in 1941 for the same period. Advance orders booked on June 1 for future delivery were slightly smaller than last year indicating that the late hatch this year may not equal the heavy late hatch last year.

In this State average prices received by producers for both poultry and eggs have held rather steady during May. The average cost of laying mash and scratch feed has also shown little variation. Maximum prices for poultry products were not established by the General Maximum Price Regulation Order because prices received by farmers for these commodities are below the minimum at which ceilings can be established under the law.

SMALLER WHEAT CROP FORECAST FOR PENNA.

THE indicated yield of the 1942 Pennsylvania wheat crop on June 1 was a total of 16,359,000 bushels which compares with 16,712,000 bushels produced last year and an average of 19,229,000 bushels over the period from 1930 to 1939, according to the Federal-State Crop Reports issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The indicated yield per acre is placed at 21 bushels compared with 19.5 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 19.7 bushels.

Indications of other grain yields are rye, 840,000 bushels compared with a yield of 798,000 bushels last year; oats, 31,860,000 bushels compared with a yield of 30,222,000 bushels last year, and barley, 3,530,000 bushels compared with 3,614,000 bushels last year.

The condition of both the oats and barley crops is far better this year than at the similar period last year, showing in the case of oats to be 89 percent of normal compared with 75 percent of normal last year, and in the case of barley, 88 percent of normal compared with 75 percent of normal in 1941. The condition in each instance is also considerably better than for the average years from 1930 to 1939.

TRADE OWNS HEAVY PA. TOBACCO STOCKS

ACCORDING to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service a total of 203,967,000 pounds of Pennsylvania seed-leaf tobacco was reported to be owned April 1 by dealers, manufacturers and other sources other than the original growers. This total comprised 119,033,000 pounds of unstemmed and 3,934,000 pounds of stemmed tobacco, and compares with 85,416,000 pounds owned January 1 this year and 113,847,000 pounds owned April 1, 1941.

SUGGEST CONTROL OF JAPANESE BEETLE

THE Japanese beetle has already made its annual debut in a number of areas in this State, the usual period for the pest to begin its depredations being about July 1 and continuing on the increase until about the last week in that month. The history of the beetle in this country shows that there is a steady increase in the number for four or five years and then there follows years registering a steady decrease in numbers, with a corresponding decrease in damage, according to the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. That is the course in the Philadelphia and Harrisburg areas where infestations have been known for about 20 years.

There are several reasons advanced for the decrease, one of which is that many persons have added poison to their lawns to kill the grub stage and other so-called artificial control measures have been extensively practiced. Another reason is that several natural enemies are said to be doing a good job of extermination. Some of the parasites were brought from foreign countries, but two of them are native, one being the round worm and the other a bacterium.

Suggestions are given by the Bureau specialists to persons in infected areas who wish to protect plants from the pest. It is stated that there are several sprays which are of distinct value, the lead arsenate spray being the best protection for shade trees. The spray should be applied as soon as possible after the first of July. It is composed of six pounds of lead arsenate in 100 gallons of water. In order to make the spray stick to the trees, which is necessary to be effective, there should be added four pounds of wheat flour mixed with a small volume of water. Fish oil or linseed oil may be substituted for the flour, using four fluid ounces of either one to each pound of lead arsenate. The spray should be kept from painted surfaces since it will cause spots if permitted to dry on those surfaces. If the season is not an unusually wet one, only one application may be sufficient to keep the beetles from the trees.

Another effective spray for foliage is made by mixing 20 pounds of hydrated lime in 97 gallons of water to which should be added a mixture of three pounds of aluminum sulphate dissolved in three gallons of water. An agitator process should be in progress while the two solutions are being combined. If a smaller volume is desired, dissolve two pounds of lime in nine gallons of water and mix with one gallon of water containing one half pound of aluminum sulphate. This spray is safely applied to grape vines and rose bushes, the only objection being that it makes ornamental plants somewhat unsightly. The spray must be applied two or three times during the beetle season and to be effective the plants must be entirely covered.

For the protection of small fruits and vegetables which are used for food during or soon after the beetle season it is best to use rotenone dusts or sprays. Dust mixtures should contain three fourths of 1% of rotenone. The applications must be made at intervals of four or five days.

In discussing the use of traps, the officials state that this method is effective if the traps are used over a large area. However, it is pointed out that it is doubtful that satisfactory results can be obtained if only one person in an infected area uses this method since the beetles from adjoining areas will be attracted to his traps but will not catch all of them from the entire community. An effective way of preventing destruction of roses is to pick the beetles from the flowers and place them in a can containing water and kerosene.

SNAP BEAN GROWTH PROMISES GOOD CROP

GROWTH of snap beans has been excellent and the crop looks promising in the Bucks-Philadelphia area, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. Early planted fields have good stands and are rapidly nearing maturity. Movement of Bountiful and Round Stringless varieties is expected to reach peak volume about July 10. Beans in all other sections of the State are making good growth due to the abundance of moisture.

EXPECT DECREASE IN PEACH, CHERRY CROPS APPLES PROMISING

LATEST indications released by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture point to a decrease in the 1942 crops of peaches and cherries compared with last year's yields. An increase in the pear crop is anticipated. These indications place the peach crop at 1,720,000 bushels compared with 1,845,000 bushels last year, and the cherry crop at 8,800 tons compared with 9,800 tons last year. The pear crop is placed at 416,000 bushels compared with 350,000 bushels in 1941. The previous 10-year average peach crop was 1,656,000 bushels, the pear crop was 609,000 bushels and the cherry crop was 7,704 tons.

The condition of the fruit at the time of the latest survey was reported to be 65 percent of normal for peaches and 68 percent of normal for pears. Last year at the similar period the condition was 64 percent for peaches and 52 percent for pears, but the both crops improved considerably before harvest resulting in greater yields than those indicated.

At the time of the survey a considerably heavier crop of apples was indicated than at the similar period last year, but in that case there was also an improvement in the crop which advanced the yield. The condition this year was placed at 69 percent of normal compared with 59 percent at the similar time last year and 63 percent as an average for the previous 10-year period.

Reports show that orchards in the valleys and lowlands in the Northeastern and Central counties were severely frosted when in bloom. Apple prospects are rather promising with a fairly heavy set of most varieties. Peach prospects are good in the important commercial counties with a very heavy set and the fruit sizing well. Much thinning will soon be required but it is reported that growers expect difficulty in procuring labor to do the work. Pears have a fair set and both sweet and sour cherries have also set well in Erie County but the set of sour cherries was comparatively light in Adams County.

Grapes appear promising in the Erie belt, although the crop suffered some damage during May from hail and heavy freezes.

ABUNDANT CROP OF HAY IS EXPECTED

AN abundant hay crop can be expected this year by Pennsylvania farmers, latest indications to the Department of Agriculture reveal, according to Secretary John H. Light. The prevailing conditions show the crop to be not only far above those of the similar period last year which proved to be considerably below normal because of the dry weather, but much improved over the average condition of the crop over the previous 10 years.

Latest indications were that the condition of all tame hay was 85 percent of normal compared with 58 percent of normal at the similar period last year and 76 percent for the average of the previous 10 years. The condition of clover and timothy hays was 85 percent of normal compared with 59 percent of normal last year and 76 percent for the average of previous 10 years. Alfalfa hay was in the lead with 91 percent of normal compared with 66 percent of normal last year and 84 percent for the average of the previous 10 years. Pastures are also in far better condition, showing 89 percent of normal compared with 63 percent last year and 79 percent for the average of the previous 10 years.

Although the excessive rains hindered general farm operations, delayed planting of corn in many areas and caused some lodging of wheat and barley, they were beneficial to hay crops and pastures, placing them in considerably better than average condition.

BIG REDUCTION IN APPLES IN STORAGE

APPLE holdings in Pennsylvania in cold storage June 1 were reported to be 42,000 bushels, compared with 110,000 bushels on the similar date last year, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. Of the apples stored, 2,000 boxes were Western apples this year compared with 7,000 boxes last year.

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LIBRARY 1942

FARMERS URGED TO GUARD AGAINST LOSS CAUSED TO GRAINS

IN advocating the adoption of control methods by the farmer against the various grain diseases, the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture declares that the average grain grower "is being robbed of about 10 percent of his crop each year by these diseases and hardly gives the matter a second thought." The most prevalent sources of destruction are the smuts, rusts and scabs.

It is pointed out that there are two kinds of smuts, the loose smut, most commonly found, and the covered or "striking" smut. The former usually causes destruction of from less than one percent to 20 or 30 percent in severe cases, and the latter, when it occurs, takes a toll of from 20 to 30 percent to as high as 90 percent of the crop. It is pointed out that the loose smut fungus is carried over from one year to the next in the seed, but a hot water treatment will kill it. The covered smut is carried over through spores that cling to the seeds so that surface treatment with formaldehyde, ceresan or other similar materials, is an effective control measure.

The grain rusts live on two widely different alternate host plants, the cereal grains and the barberry. Where they prevail they cause a loss in yield of as much as 10 percent of the crop. According to an estimate covering a 10 year period between 1915 and 1925, the loss of wheat alone due to rusts in this country was more than 79 million bushels per year, the value of which was placed at 82 million dollars.

Under a program of the Department of Agriculture effective methods are followed in the control of the rusts through the eradication of the barberry plant, a total of 13,215,042 of those plants having been destroyed up to May this year since the institution of that control measure, which indicates the extensiveness of that effort.

The scab diseases up to the present time have not been as important as the smuts and rusts. They do little damage excepting during favorable years when they become epidemic causing a loss of about five percent. However, the scabs not only affect the grain but the fungus can cause killing of the seedlings, resulting in a poor stand, particularly in certain spots where conditions for infection are most favorable. Preventative measures are urged which are the use of good seed, the use of resistant varieties and a proper rotation of crops in areas where scab is prevalent.

MILK PRODUCTION IS STILL AT HIGH MARK

MILK production in Pennsylvania is continuing the war-time tempo established some months ago, according to the latest report of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, production per cow, given as 22.3 pounds as an average on June 1, having been the second highest figure for that date on record. This is in line with the situation throughout the country, the report showing that production during the month of May having been the greatest for any month on record.

The condition of pastures in this State on June 1 were also at near record levels and indications are that they will remain in that condition throughout the early summer. In addition to the good supply of feed being provided from that source, however, the report shows that dairymen are feeding grain concentrates at exceptionally high levels, showing a desire to maintain a high milk production.

Feed prices have recently shown some tendency to decline but the average cost of 20 percent mixed dairy feed on May 1 was still 24 percent above the similar date last year compared with a 19 percent increase between the same dates in the average price received by farmers for milk. In spite of the increased volume of milk production in all sections of the state which had to be utilized in surplus classifications, prices paid to dairymen held up well on May deliveries, but the prices received by farmers are below minimum levels established by law at which ceiling prices become operative.

SAYS FAIRS SERVE IMPORTANT FUNCTION

AS a result of the request made in Washington recently by Federal Transportation Director Eastman that agricultural fairs be suspended Secretary John H. Light has been asked by some of the fair associations to offer advice as to the course which should be taken. In reply Secretary Light made the following statement: "Since the agricultural fairs held throughout Pennsylvania are separate and distinct unities apart from government and operated privately as local enterprises, it must be appreciated that there can be no governmental official ruling governing them. However, my personal opinion is, as publicly expressed upon several occasions, that these fairs have an important function in the promotion and development of agriculture and that where their continuance could not interfere with any war program, a suspension might cause an undesirable break in the work that has been accomplished.

"It would occur to me that decision on the part of the individual fairs might best be made by consideration of the action taken within the past few days by the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Association of County Fairs, which I am informed by Mr. Charles W. Swoyer, Secretary, was favorable to the holding of the fairs as scheduled."

PACK OF WILD DOGS CAUSE MUCH DAMAGE

THE depredations which are caused by stray dogs and the extent of the vigilance and efforts of the Department of Agriculture to protect property and livestock against such animals is shown forcibly in a report just made to Secretary John H. Light by an agent of the Division of Dog Law Enforcement of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

A farmer in the mountainous area of Dauphin County reported to the law enforcement agent that he had suffered the loss of two young bulls and 10 sheep killed and six sheep injured while the animals were in pasture. The loss having been incurred by dogs, it was appraised and $182.50 paid to the farmer.

Under the direction of the agent of the Department of Agriculture a posse was organized to scour the entire region and in the vastness of the hills lairs were found in which dogs lived. The animals had been at large a long period of time and had virtually gone wild. The hunt resulted in the killing of 14 dogs of the packs, but it is felt certain that some are still at large and efforts to locate them are being continued.

During the trailing of the animals the men came upon a spot which bore mute evidence of a life and death struggle between one or more of the dogs and a deer and the deer became the victim. There were also many skins of rabbits in the locality, indicating that they too, had fallen victims to the wild canines.

In commenting upon the case Secretary Light stated that "this is another of numerous cases which point to the necessity of owners keeping their dogs under control in strict compliance with the law. A roaming dog may easily become not alone a nuisance but a definite menace and danger to persons as well as to property, but these dangers will be reduced to a minimum if all persons cooperate fully with the Department in its efforts to enforce the laws."

STRAWBERRY YIELD FAR ABOVE AVERAGE

PRODUCTION of strawberries this year in Pennsylvania is 30 percent above that of last year, although the acreage was reduced from 5,000 to 4,800 acres, according to preliminary reports of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture. Total indicated production is placed at 456,000 crates of 24 quarts each, compared with 350,000 crates last year. The previous 10-year average was 312,000 crates from an average of 4,220 acres. The yield per acre this year is placed at 95 crates compared with 70 crates last year and a previous 10-year average of 72 crates.

Pennsylvania stands first in yield per acre among the second late producing states which besides this State comprise Iowa, Michigan, New York, Utah and Wisconsin.

INCREASE SHOWN IN LABOR ON PA. FARMS SHORTAGE LOCALIZED

THE latest survey by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light, shows a total of 285,000 persons employed on farms in this State June 1 which was the same as the number employed May 1, but an increase of 23,000 over April 1. The division between family workers, given as 207,000 and hired workers, listed as 78,000, is also the same as a month earlier, but shows an increase of 7,000 in the first category and 16,000 in the latter classification over the number listed April 1. The average wage rate with board June 1 was $40 a month, an increase of $3 since April 1 and the day rate advanced 25 cents to $2.50. The average wage rate without board per month was $65, showing an advance of $5 since April 1 and the day rate was $3.20, an increase of 30 cents during the previous two months.

The report shows that wet weather during the first week in June interfered with the progress of farm work in this State, but practically all the small grain seeding was completed except for fields where replanting was necessitated by storms. The middle of the month found the haying season in full swing and cherry picking well started with farmers depending upon exchange labor and school-age workers to get much of the work done.

Various reports have been received by the Pennsylvania Advisory Agricultural Defense Council of which Secretary Light is chairman from county agricultural defense committees relating to the farm labor situation which show that labor shortages in this State are localized but that farmers are succeeding through working longer hours, the employment of more members of their families and exchanging labor from one farm to another, in carrying on their operations. There is no indication that losses will be sustained to the heavy hay crop by reason of inability to have it harvested.

In reporting conditions in his area the chairman of one of the county committees wrote: "We resent the infiltration of Federal 'agencies' spending public money, duplicating work, and doing things which, in a democracy, should be done by volunteer civilians. If all the unnecessary government employes trying to help the farmer would actually go to work on the farm, there would be no labor problem."

INDICATE INCREASES IN CANNING CROPS

OPENING of pea cannery operations in the Southern area of this State may have ushered in one of Pennsylvania's heaviest canning seasons of record, according to compilations of the Department of Agriculture released by Secretary John H. Light. The pea canneries which are located principally in Adams, Franklin, York and Somerset counties, contracted with growers for approximately 9,000 acres compared with 8,400 acres last year and 7,000 acres in 1940, and an average of only 3,860 acres for the previous 10-year period.

It is expected, however, that the average yield this season may be slightly less than normal. The pea vines grew tall but were not set heavily with pods in many fields due to abnormal weed growth, excessive moisture during May and in some instances, infections of root rot. Last year the average yield for the State was 1.1 tons per acre. Indications point to less than a one ton average for this year.

Other canning crops to follow peas with increased acreages over last year are beans, sweet corn and tomatoes. The total acreage devoted to vegetable crops for canning may reach the record of 52,000 acres this year, compared with 44,260 acres last year.

Peas and tomatoes are specified as preferential canned goods in the war effort and increased production was requested for both crops.

PA. LETTUCE ACREAGE BELOW THAT OF 1941

PRELIMINARY estimates of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by the State Department of Agriculture, place the acreage planted to lettuce this year in this State at 340 acres or 92 percent of the 370 acres of lettuce grown last year. The previous 10-year average is 290 acres.

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PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY JUL 22 1942

SUMMARY IS MADE OF RULES FOR MAKING ADDITIONS TO HERDS

AT the instance of Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Animal Industry has made a concise summary of the conditions under which additions may be made to herds under supervision for the prevention and control of Bang disease about which it is found there is some confusion, particularly at public sales of livestock.

Additions to herds should always be accompanied by a health certificate and the tag number on the health chart must compare with the tag number in the ear of the cow. If the animal is registered the registry identification must compare with the registry certificate. The date of the Bang disease test should be carefully noted and if none had been made within a year, the animals should not be purchased unless the papers are marked "area" and in that case approval should be procured from a veterinarian or from the Bureau of Animal Industry. It is also well to compare the date of issue of the health certificate with the date of the test, certificates of recent issue being desirable. If a health certificate gives evidence of having been changed, caution should be exercised.

If the purchaser has a certified herd only animals should be purchased which have health certificates stamped "Approved to enter Bang disease certified herd or tested area without retest." This stamp is a mark of distinction and the Bureau of Animal Industry is exerting every effort to maintain its value.

In making purchases at private sale from a dealer it is a simple matter to compare the health chart with the markings on the animal offered for sale and if any doubt arises the tag number and name and address of the previous owner should be procured and confirmation of the status of the animal procured from the Bureau of Animal Industry. If purchases are made from another herd the seller should show his Bang disease test report, and purchases should be made only if all animals are shown to be negative and the report is less than a year old. If the herd is certified the owner should present the certificate and renewal.

When animals are moved they should be transported in trucks that have been cleaned and disinfected and never with untested animals. A number of herd owners isolate newly purchased animals for 30 days and never place them with the herd until negative results are procured on retests.

The Bureau maintains complete reports of all herds tested in this State and will advise any prospective purchaser at any time of the status of those herds.

EXPECT INCREASE IN PRODUCTION OF PEAS

ALTHOUGH the indicated yield of Pennsylvania green peas for processing is below that of last year, the greater acreage planted is expected to show a large increase in total production, according to Federal-State Crop Reports issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. Indicated production this year is 15,540 tons of shelled peas compared with 11,880 tons last year and the previous 10-year average of 4,610 tons. The acreage devoted to that crop this year was 14,800 acres compared with 10,800 last year and a previous 10-year average of 4,580 acres. Indicated yield per acre this year is 2,100 pounds of shelled peas compared with 2,200 pounds last year and the previous 10-year average of 1,900 pounds.

TON OF OLD RUBBER GATHERED BY DEPT.

ONE ton of old rubber has been turned over to the Department of Properties and Supplies by Secretary John H. Light as the contribution of the Department of Agriculture to the rubber salvage campaign. Upon the opening of the drive Secretary Light ordered all bureau chiefs to have an intensive search made for all discarded equipment and appliances which might contain any amount of rubber with the result that including the worn-out tires of the 148 automobiles used in the various bureaus of law enforcement and inspection work throughout the State, the large pile was secured.

FARM STOCK PRICES CONTINUE INCREASES

PRICES of milk cows, horses and mules in this State are registering large increases, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture issued by Secretary John H. Light. The average price of cows on June 15 was $110, having advanced from $107 a month earlier and from $86 in June, 1941. During the pre-war period from 1910 to 1914 the average price was $53.06.

The average price of horses rose to $121 on June 15 from $118 a month earlier and from $110 in June last year, but is still far below the $117.20 mark which was the average price during the 1910-14 period. Mules also show a consistent rise in price, the average on June 15 being placed at $129 compared with $126 in May and $119 a year earlier. There is no record for the pre-war period.

The report of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service shows the index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products increased three points during the month which ended June 15, chickens and eggs contributing mostly to that increase. The price of hogs advanced during the month from $13.20 to $13.50, beef cattle from $10.80 to $11.30, veal calves from $13.20 to $13.50 and lambs from $11.90 to $12.50.

Figuring the pre-war base as 100 the prices which farmers pay for the things they need stood at 152 on June 15 compared with 128 a year earlier while the farmers' purchasing power was 103, an advance of two points during the month, compared with 98 in June last year.

SNAP BEAN ACREAGE GAINS 17 PERCENT

THE acreage of snap beans planted this year in Pennsylvania for processing increased 17 percent, according to preliminary surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reports issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The acreage is placed at 4,200 acres compared with 3,600 acres last year and an average of 2,340 acres for the previous 10 years.

Green beans hold a big lead over wax beans as favorites, it being indicated that 3,150 acres of the total are devoted to that variety compared with 1,050 acres planted to wax beans.

STOCK OF BARLEY ON FARMS IS REDUCED

ACCORDING to the latest reports of the Department of Agriculture the stocks of barley on Pennsylvania farms is 127,000 bushels below those of the similar period last year, but 81,000 bushels greater than the average for the previous 10 years. The total this year is given as 325,000 bushels; last year 452,000 bushels and the previous 10-year average, 244,000 bushels.

In the case of rye the stocks are below those on farms last year and also below the previous 10-year average. The latest report showed 136,000 bushels compared with 207,000 bushels at the similar period last year and an average of 260,000 bushels over the previous 10 years.

Prospects for both Winter wheat and rye are reported to be good. Damage from fly and smut has been reported in a few wheat fields but it is not expected to be serious and abandonment will probably be light. Barley prospects as a whole are good despite poor stands in some fields and lodging in some areas.

LARGE INCREASE IN '42 TOMATO ACREAGE

THAT Pennsylvania farmers are turning heavily to the growing of tomatoes as a cash crop is shown in the large increases in acreages again reported for 1942 by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service just issued by Secretary John H. Light of the State Department of Agriculture. The report shows an increase from 2,400 acres last year to 2,700 acres this year for the growing of tomatoes for the fresh market, these figures comparing with an average of 1,510 acres over the previous 10 years. An increase of 24 percent from 21,300 last year to 26,400 acres this year is also reported for tomatoes for canning and processing, indicating a general advancement of this State as a canning area.

Acreage devoted to onions in this State has remained stationary for 12 years at 360 acres.

PA. HOG PRODUCTION SHOWS BIG INCREASE BELOW EARLY PERIOD

HOG production in Pennsylvania is showing a vast increase but the number of sows farrowed is 2,000 short of the record year of 1939, according to the Federal-State Crop Reports issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. For the country as a whole production this year will be much the largest on record and that figure will be materially exceeded in 1943. The report shows that the number of Spring pigs saved, which was for the period from December 1 to June 1, was 461,000 this year, compared with 384,000 last year and a previous 10-year average of 373,000. The average number of pigs per litter, which was 6.4 during the Spring period, was the same as last year.

The report states that 72,000 sows were farrowed during the Spring period and that breeding intentions indicate the farrowing of 87,000 sows during the Fall period from June 1 to December 1. These figures compared with 60,000 for the Spring period last year and the same number for the previous 10-year average, and 67,000 for the Fall period last year.

The estimated 1942 Spring pig crop throughout the country is 25 percent larger than in the Spring of 1941. Farmers' reports of sows to farrow this Fall indicate a 1942 pig crop 22 percent larger than in the Fall of last year. Spring and Fall crops combined may total 105,500,000 head this year, compared with 85 million last year and the 1942 crop will be the first to exceed the 100 million mark.

Interesting data showing the course and variations of hog raising in this State are contained in the records of the State Department of Agriculture dating back to 1867. In that year the estimated number of hogs was 1,026,000 and with the exception of two years the number exceeded the million mark until 1898 when a gradual but consistent decrease is recorded, the number going to 775,000 in 1910, then registering an upturn which was consistent until 1923 when the tide again turned downward. The recorded number on farms on January 1 this year is placed at 701,000; on that date last year, 754,000 and 670,000 as an average for the previous 10-year period on that date.

Starting in 1917 the World War gave an impetus to hog raising which continued until 1924 when a decline is registered but the high mark during that period, 1,265,000 hogs in 1919, exceeded by only 20,000 the previous high year which was 1884 when there were 1,245,000 hogs. There was, however, a vast difference in the price, the average value per hog in the earlier year being recorded as $9.30 compared to $26.00 in 1919. The total hog value for the State in the earlier year was $11,578,000 compared with a value of $32,890,000 in 1919, that year being the banner year for the hog industry in this State, exceeding by more than six million dollars the next high year which was in 1918, when there were 1,200,000 hogs.

The low point in average value per head was reached in 1868, the figure that year having been $5.70, but two years later the value had jumped to $10.40. The nearest approach to the high of 1919 previous to the 1914 war period, was in 1913 when the per head value was $12.50 and increased the next year to $13.80, then declined in 1915 to $13.50 and the next year to $10.40. The climb began with a value of $13.90 in 1917; continued the next year to $22.30, struck the high of $26 in 1919, went to $21.30 in 1920, declined in later years, but held at $13 and above, reaching $17.50 in 1927, until 1930 when consistent decline brought the value down to $6 in 1933. On January 1 this year the average per head value was $14.60 and last year it was $8.90. The previous 10-year average was $10.17.

It is generally suggested that the decline in hog raising in this State, which began in 1898, was due to the advancement of the dairy industry. Following the stimulus of World War I, the decline was again consistent reaching the lowest figure for the entire period of record in 1935 when the total number of hogs is placed at 554,000.

Prices Below 1918

In 1918 farmers received $1.94 for a bushel of corn which compared with 93 cents per bushel listed on June 15 this year. Wheat in the earlier period was $2.11. The June 15 price was $1.13.

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NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY JUL 27 1942

NO LOSSES REPORTED TO CROPS IN PENNA. THRU LACK OF LABOR

THE latest report of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light of the State Department of Agriculture, showed no change in the farm labor situation in Pennsylvania from that which existed on May 1. The total farm employment was placed at 285,000, of which 207,000 persons were listed as family workers and 78,000 as hired workers. The total showed an increase from 262,000 on April 1 of which 200,000 were family workers.

The average wage rate per month with board increased from $37 on April 1 to $40 on June 1 and the day rate advanced from $2.25 to $2.50. The average rate per month without board went from $60 to $65 and the day rate from $2.90 to $3.20.

There is no indication that up to this time there have been any loss of crops as a result of possible labor shortages. Farmers are working longer hours, more members of their families are engaged in the farm operations and the exchange labor and equipment plan is being widely followed. This plan prevailed to a large extent during the hay-making period when difficulties were encountered as a result of considerable wet weather. Added to that condition was the advanced ripening of the wheat crop in the Eastern sections, harvesting of which began a week to 10 days ahead of normal seasons. In the cherry sections many boys of school age were employed.

The heaviest demands for labor, however, will occur later in the season when the principle vegetable and fruit crops must be harvested. That season extends beyond the dates for the opening of schools in many areas which will take from the available list much school age help which is now being employed.

Throughout the country the report states that the trend in farm employment the last five months, particularly during May and June when the heavy work really began, indicates the possibility of expanding the working force on farms enough to offset the withdrawals of farm hands by industries and the Selective Service. The extent to which the reserve of youth, of more elderly people and of women not ordinarily available for farm work could be utilized this year was an unknown quantity earlier in the year and gave rise to considerable apprehension as to the adequacy of the farm labor supply. In spite of anticipated increasing demands of industry and the military, it now appears probable that employment during the remaining half of this year may not be appreciably less than employment during the corresponding months of last year. So far this year, total employment on farms has averaged slightly more than during the first half of 1941.

PEACH HARVEST WILL BE EARLY THIS YEAR

THE earliest varieties of peaches are now being picked in some of the larger peach orchards of Pennsylvania's peach belt comprising Adams, Berks, Lehigh, Cumberland and Franklin counties. The early varieties, such as Mayflower and Red Bird, are not grown in large commercial quantities.

Peach growers have reported to the Department of Agriculture that the principal crop is maturing and that harvesting will begin early in August or about a week to 10 days ahead of the normal period. The fruit is sizing well as a result of abundant rainfall.

Secretary John H. Light stated that plantings of large acreages of peaches by Pennsylvania growers during the past few years are now coming into abundant bearing, placing this State in a foremost position in the production of that fruit. Much of the crop is shipped to other states but a large part of the production is used by Pennsylvania housewives as fresh fruit, for canning and preserving.

Peach growers had been concerned about the marketing of the crop as a result of sugar rationing, but it is now reported that additional allotments of sugar will be available for canning and preserving purposes. It is also reported that marketing of strawberries and other early fruits and berries has been satisfactory, indicating that sugar rationing has not been a hindrance to the consumer in canning and preserving.

HESSIAN FLY CAUSES HEAVY WHEAT LOSSES

THE Hessian fly has caused losses to the wheat crop in various sections of this State according to reports to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The most seriously affected area, according to early reports, is the Cumberland Valley where in some cases entire fields are a total loss. Losses, however, extend throughout the Eastern and Southern counties. Harvesting of wheat in the Northern and Western sections is not yet fully underway and it has not yet been determined to what extent similar conditions prevail in those sections.

It is generally suggested that heavy infestations are the result of a disregard of the prescribed dates for sowing wheat in the Fall in the various areas, sowing being done earlier than the times designated. However, it is also suggested that infestations may result even if the sowing dates are adhered to if there is a late Fall and an early Spring bringing favorable weather conditions for the development of the fly. The pest works upon the wheat stalk preventing the proper amount of moisture to reach the grain. In heavy infestations the fly causes the stalk to break, bringing complete loss of the grain.

SEASON UNFAVORABLE FOR BIG HONEY CROP

THE month of June is usually the period when the largest surplus of light honey is gathered by bees since sunshine, which is necessary to secrete nectar in most plants, is normally more abundant during that month, according to the Bureau of Plant Industry of the State Department of Agriculture. Much cloudy and rainy weather, however, during the past six weeks has reduced the flow of nectar to such an extent that little surplus honey has been gathered in most sections of this State, the Bureau specialists have reported.

It is also pointed out that a good supply of moisture is also necessary to grow thrifty plants to secrete an abundance of nectar and that during drought years, little honey is gathered during July and August. This season, however, most plants are in excellent condition and with sufficient sunshine the bees may still be able to gather a fair crop of honey, and the Bureau therefore urges beekeepers to provide the bees with room for storage to assure a crop if weather conditions prove favorable.

It is stated that usually honey can be taken from the bees from May until the end of October. It should be capped before it is removed and if taken off too soon it is apt to ferment and will not keep well. It is further pointed out that care must be exercised in handling and preparing honey for market. Section honey should first be fumigated for wax and bee louse and then scraped and wrapped and stored in a tight closet.

Extracted honey requires the use of modern equipment to heat, clarify and bottle, the methods employed today being far in advance of those of even 10 years ago. The bee industry generally has shown great advancement as the result of modern methods of harvesting, processing and caring for comb and extracted honey.

When comb honey is removed from the super and while being cleaned and wrapped it can easily be punctured with the fingers or scraping tool, causing leaky sections. It is pointed out that it requires special skill and care to produce comb honey and many large beekeepers are discontinuing the production, confining their operations to extracted honey. This leaves to the smaller beekeeper, who cannot afford the more expensive extracting equipment, an opportunity to specialize in the production of comb honey. If properly prepared, extracted or liquid honey can be kept in the original container many years without losing its value.

REPORT SWEET CORN IS ABOVE AVERAGE

LATEST reports to the Department of Agriculture show the condition of sweet corn at that time to be 81 percent of normal compared with 88 percent last year at the similar period and a previous 10-year average of 79 percent.

Marketing of staked tomatoes from the Washington Boro, Lancaster County area, began moving in light volume in late June with later sales anticipated to be heavy.

FIND CORN BORER IS EXTENDING INTO NEW AREA IN THIS STATE

FEAR is expressed by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture that the double brooded corn borer may be gradually extending its area of operation as a result of the discovery of that specie of the pest a few days ago by a specialist of the Bureau of Plant Industry in a field of sweet corn in the central part of Lebanon County. That is the most westerly area in which the specie has been found in this State, it having been confined to the eastern counties while the single brooded borer only has been found in the central and western sections.

The double brooded borer causes depredations to both the early and late crops of corn while the single brooded specie exists only to attack the early crop. In many areas where the latter specie has prevailed much progress in control has been made by planting corn later in the season, but this plan would have no effect upon the double brooded borer.

With the possibility of the double brooded specie extending westward, still greater emphasis is being placed by the Bureau of Plant Industry specialists upon the necessity of every farmer following rigidly the only effective plan of control which entails the plowing under in the fall of all corn stubbles and thoroughly clearing the fields of weeds which are also breeding places for the double brooded specie.

A suggestion of the loss caused by the corn borer is seen in the report of the partial survey by the Federal Department of Agriculture which places the loss to the 1941 corn crop in six counties of this State alone at $162,168, of which $118,346 was caused to field corn and $43,822 to sweet corn. The counties surveyed were Bucks, Berks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster and Montgomery. The loss in the 258 counties in 18 states surveyed is estimated at five million dollars. Losses over a large part of the infested areas in all the states were said to be lower than in 1940.

In the single brooded area of Pennsylvania which extends approximately from the Blue Ridge mountains west, the parent moths of the borer start flying about the second week in July. In the double brooded area which is east of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the parent moths start flying about the first of June and the second brood takes flight in August.

It is urged that in the double brooded area sweet corn stalks be cut and fed to livestock soon after the crop is harvested which will exterminate the borers and prevent their development and infestation of late fields of sweet corn.

CABBAGE IS DAMAGED BY MAGGOTS, CUTWORM

MUCH of the crop of early domestic cabbage which recently reached the peak of the harvest in the Bucks-Philadelphia and southeastern areas was badly damaged by maggots and cutworm, according to reports of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture. This is also true of the crop in the Columbia, Luzerne and Schuylkill areas and in Lackawanna County. In spite of that condition, however, the supply is expected to be heavy throughout this month. Setting of the late Danish crop is well under way but growers report a shortage of plants which may cause some loss in intended acreage.

The snap bean harvest, which reached its peak in the Bucks-Philadelphia area more than a week ago, brought heavy yields and excellent quality. Marketings of early bunched carrots will be in heavy volume from the Bucks-Philadelphia area throughout this month. Growers of late celery in the Lycoming-Tioga section expect a good late crop, but many of the early planted fields were flooded by heavy rains late in May and June and pump drainage was necessary. The lettuce crop in that area is expected to be of considerable volume and high quality. Marketings of spinach from the Bucks-Philadelphia area will be light during the remainder of this month and the early part of August.

Penna. Oats Acreage

Harvested oats acreage in this State this year is expected to be the same as that harvested last year, 876,000 acres, the latest survey shows.

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DECREASE NOTED IN PEACH, CHERRY CROPS

PRODUCTION of two of Pennsylvania's fruit crops will show large decreases this year compared with 1941 yields, according to latest indications compiled by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by the State Department of Agriculture.

The survey indicates that the peach crop will total 1,695,000 bushels compared with the production last year of 1,845,000 bushels. That figure, however, is still above the previous 10-year average of 1,656,000 bushels.

It is indicated that the pear crop will increase to a total yield of 428,000 bushels compared with a production of 350,000 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 609,000 bushels. A decrease is indicated in cherries, the indicated yield being placed at 8,700 tons compared with 9,800 tons last year. The production is still indicated to be in excess of the previous 10-year average of 7,704 tons.

Indications are that the grape crop will show a considerable increase in production over last year when storms and cold weather caused much damage to the crop in the Erie area. Total production this year is placed at 18,800 tons compared with 13,500 tons last year, but is still considerably under the previous 10-year average of 20,430 tons.

No figures are yet available on the apple crop excepting that the last survey showed the condition of the crop to be 63 percent of normal compared with 60 percent at the comparable period last year and 55 percent average at that period during the previous five years.

RABIES REPORTED TO BE MORE PREVALENT

DECLARING that the prevalence of rabies has increased during the past two weeks in various sections of Pennsylvania, officials of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the State Department of Agriculture are warning all dog owners to comply strictly with the dog laws to prevent what can result in a serious outbreak in some areas. The most serious conditions, according to the Bureau investigations, occur in an area in Mercer County and a section in Crawford County where 24 cows have died as the result of the infection. Prevalence of the disease to some extent is reported from Delaware, Chester, Bucks, Montgomery, Schuylkill, Erie, Lawrence, Butler, Venango, Clarion, Fayette, Washington, Beaver, Centre, Westmoreland, Allegheny and Armstrong counties in addition to Mercer and Crawford.

Stray and ownerless dogs are said to be the chief causes of the spreading of rabies and since they have a tendency to roam to a greater extent during the Summer months, chances of spreading the disease are increased. It is pointed out that rabies has been successfully controlled and eliminated in a number of areas by the proper execution of the sanitary police measures, including the quarantine of dogs, prompt diagnosis, destruction or isolation of bitten dogs and the elimination of stray and ownerless dogs.

It is urged that dog owners keep their dogs under control at all times and that local police officers, constables and other agencies throughout the State comply with the provisions of the Pennsylvania dog laws and enforce the rules and regulations and quarantines of municipalities and communities so that the stray, uncontrolled dog be eliminated.

It is further pointed out that all biting dogs should not be destroyed at once, but should be held for observation. If affected with rabies the dog will die within five or six days after which the head should be sent to the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg for diagnosis of the ailment of the animal. Persons having been bitten by a rabid dog should receive medical attention at once.

BARBERRY DISEASE IS NOT SPREADING

THE Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture reported that no new infections of barberry disease were found in the eradication work so far this season which has covered parts of Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Bradford, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lawrence, Mercer, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties. Some loss has been caused to wheat in some areas.

GREATER PRODUCTION IS INDICATED IN ALL PENNA. FARM CROPS

INCREASES in production of all grain and hay crops is indicated for this year in Pennsylvania over the 1941 production, according to the latest survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The increases are due to a large extent to the increased yields per acre over those of last year in the case of every one of the crops. Increased acreages have occurred in three of the crops.

The greatest production increase is shown in corn in which the acreage shows an increase of two percent over last year, showing a total of 1,308,000 acres compared with 1,282,000 acres in 1941, but the yield per acre, according to latest indications will be 43 bushels compared with 41.5 bushels last year, bringing the indicated total production to 56,244,000 bushels compared with 53,203,000 bushels last year and a previous 10-year average of 53,662,000 bushels. The indicated total production of wheat is 17,094,000 bushels this year compared with a total of 16,712,000 bushels in 1941 in spite of a five percent decrease in acreage, dropping to 814,000 acres this year compared with 857,000 last year. The yield per acre, advanced from 19.5 bushels last year to an indicated yield of 21 bushels this year, and which will be sufficiently great to offset the reduced acreage and bring an increase in production besides.

The oats acreage being the same as that of last year, placed at 876,000 acres, and the indicated yield per acre showing only an advance of a half bushel from 34.5 bushels last year to 35 bushels this year, only a comparatively slight advance in total production of that crop is listed. The production for this year is placed at 30,660,000 bushels compared with 30,222,000 bushels in 1941, but it is greatly in advance of the 26,405,000 bushel average production for the previous 10 years.

The greatest increases in all respects are registered in the barley crop. The acreage was jumped seven percent from 139,000 acres last year and the previous 10-year average of 70,000 acres to 149,000 acres. The indicated yield per acre is placed at 31.5 bushels compared with 26 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 26.8 bushels, bringing the indicated total production to 4,694,000 bushels compared with 3,614,000 bushels in 1941 and a previous 10-year average of 1,889,000 bushels.

Rye acreage was increased one percent, going from 57,000 acres last year to 58,000 acres this year compared with the previous 10-year average of 103,000 acres. The indicated yield per acre for this year is placed at 15.5 bushels compared with 14 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 14.1 bushels, placing the indicated total production at 899,000 bushels compared with 798,000 bushels last year and a previous 10-year average of 1,444,000 bushels.

The hay acreage, placed at 2,319,000 acres is about the same as that of last year, but the indicated yield per acre is given as 1.45 tons compared with 1.23 tons last year and the previous 10-year average of 1.18 tons. Total indicated yield is placed at 3,363,000 tons compared with a production of 2,868,000 tons last year and a previous 10-year average of 2,911,000 tons.

These increases are indicated in spite of the fact that the corn crop got off to a slow start due to wet weather. It made rapid growth, however, during June. Excessive rains interfered with cultivation and many fields are quite weedy, many of them now beyond cultivation in the southeastern section.

The wheat harvest has been delayed by wet soil conditions in some fields. The crop was rank in growth and excessive rains caused considerable lodging in many fields. Yields were reduced by fly in central and south-central counties. Much oats was sown seeding continuing until the latter part of June in some localities. Rains caused some lodging and also caused some fields to turn yellow and rust to develop in others. Rapid growth was made during June and a much better than average yield is in prospect.

CABBAGE ACREAGE IS INCREASED IN PENNA.

ACREAGE planted to cabbage this year in Pennsylvania was increased from 5,900 acres in 1941 to 6,200 acres, according to the Federal-State Crop Report, issued by the State Department of Agriculture. Although an increase is shown for this State, a decrease of nine percent is reported for the total of the group of states producing late domestic cabbage, which comprise, besides Pennsylvania, Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin. The total acreage to be harvested, however, is two percent above the 1931-40 average. No estimates are yet possible on production, which last year in this State was 50,200 tons, compared with the previous 10-year average of 40,200 tons. The yield per acre was eight and one half tons, compared with an average of 7.7 tons for the previous 10 years.

Lettuce production in this State will show a decrease of 3,000 crates below the 1941 figure, according to preliminary estimates. The acreage was lowered from 370 acres last year to 340 acres this year, which, however, is considerably above the previous 10 year average of 290 acres. Preliminary surveys place the yield per acre at 155 crates compared with 150 crates last year and the previous 10-year average of 157 crates. Total production is indicated to be 53,000 crates compared with 56,000 crates last year and 45,000 crates as an average for the previous 10 years.

REPORT ON STOCKS OF GRAIN ON FARMS

ACCORDING to reports to the Department of Agriculture stocks of grain on Pennsylvania farms on July 1 were as follows: Corn, 8,933,000 bushels compared with 7,818,000 bushels July 1 last year and the previous 10-year average of 8,016,000 bushels; oats, 4,533,000 bushels compared with 4,715,000 bushels a year previously and the previous 10-year average of 4,248,000 bushels, and wheat, old crop, 1,605,000 bushels compared with 1,502,000 bushels the year previously and the 10-year average of 1,620,000 bushels.

RECORD IS BROKEN BY PA. TEST HENS

THE best United States all-time hen test pen record in the four year class has been broken at the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test, conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced. The outstanding accomplishment was registered by a pen of 11 single comb white leghorns entered by Schwegler's Hatchery which is now in its fourth year in the test. The record shows that the pen in 1,308 days produced a total of 10,067 eggs with a credit of 10,594.85 points. The previous record was made in the Vineland, N. J. test with a production of 10,028 eggs, credited with 10,576.10 points.

EXPECT INCREASE IN TOBACCO PRODUCTION

ALTHOUGH the Pennsylvania tobacco acreage was reduced two percent this year, being cut from 35,700 acres last year to 35,000 for 1942, indications point to a production of nearly two million pounds greater this year than that of last year, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture. Favorable weather conditions are attributed as being largely responsible for the increased yield which this year will reach 1,550 pounds per acre, according to the last indications, compared with 1,471 pounds per acre last year. The previous 10-year average yield is 1,241 pounds and the average total production over the same period is 35,383,000 pounds. The average acreage harvested over that period was 28,800 acres.

INDICATE 18,800-TON GRAPE CROP IN PA.

LATEST indications are that the Pennsylvania grape crop this year will yield 18,800 tons, according to the Department of Agriculture. This compares with a production of 13,500 tons last year which registered a low mark because of adverse weather conditions during the growing season. The average crop during the years from 1930 to 1939 totaled 20,430 tons.

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EGG PRODUCTION IS STILL ON INCREASE BREAKING RECORDS

PENNSYLVANIA egg production for June was the highest for that month record in spite of the fact that a somewhat greater seasonal decline than last year was registered, according to the Federal-State Crop Reports issued by the Department of Agriculture. The record production was due entirely to the increased number of hens compared with the last year, the average production per layer showing no advance. Compared with production during May there was a decline of 2.2 eggs in the monthly number of eggs per layer, placing that number for June at 16.

The number of layers on Pennsylvania farms for June is placed at 13,514,000 compared with 14,438,000 in May and 14,364,000 in June last year. Total production was 216 million eggs in June compared with 263 million in May and 198 million in June last year.

Egg production in the United States was 16 percent above the same month last year. The number of layers in farm flocks hit a new peak for the month and because of heavy hatchery production during the month, farm holdings of young chickens on July 1 were also the largest on record.

A steady to firm tone was maintained in Pennsylvania egg markets during June and since July 1 wholesale prices have advanced two to three cents at principal terminal markets. Both liquid and dried egg production have been maintained at high rate, and this is expected to continue through the year as driers meet commitments on Government contracts. Weekly purchases for the entire month averaged about five and one half million pounds. Receipts of eggs at Philadelphia during May and June this year were 23 percent smaller than the same two months last year. The decline is due partly to shifts in marketing methods necessitated by the War and to the diversion of eggs from the Middle Western States to drying plants under the Government purchase program. Egg supplies of Pennsylvania origin during these two months at Philadelphia increased 10 percent over a year ago. Nearly half of the eggs received at the Philadelphia market during May and June this year came from Pennsylvania farms during these same two months last year Pennsylvania contributed only a part of the receipts.

The average price received for eggs by farmers in the State the middle of June was nearly two cents higher than mid-May. Feed costs, with exception of an advance of five cents a hundred pounds on feed grains, were relatively steady. Maximum prices for meat scraps on the basis of 50 percent protein content have been established by the Price Control Administration. The Country has been divided into eight zones. Counties in the state west of a line drawn along eastern boundaries of Potter, Clearfield and Somerset fall in zone six and have a price of $55 a ton. Counties east of this line are in zone seven and the maximum price is $52.

LABOR PROBLEM SEEN BY TOMATO GROWERS

WHAT is expected to be the heaviest tomato canning season for all time in this State will begin early in August and continue until frosts decree finis to operations by ringing the death knell of the plants. According to reports to the Department of Agriculture, Pennsylvania growers have devoted 28,200 acres to the crop this year which is an increase of 12 percent over the 1941 acreage and represents a great expansion from the acres planted in 1927.

Having planted the greater acreage and anticipating the largest crop produced in the State, growers are now becoming deeply concerned about the supply of labor for the harvesting of the crop. It is reported that in some districts efforts on the part of the growers to arrange with school authorities for the releasing of pupils from the high schools to assist in the picking of the tomatoes, have not been with success. One school district in the tomato area, however, is reported to have planned the opening of the school term two weeks in advance of the usual date and will then eliminate sessions during the peak of the harvesting season.

EXPECT POTATO CROP TO EQUAL LAST YEAR

INDICATED Pennsylvania potato production this year, according to the July 1 survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture, is placed at 20,540,000 bushels which is the same as the total production of the 1941 crop. The acreage planted to the crop is also the same as last year, 158,000 acres, making the indicated yield of 130 bushels to the acre the same as the 1941 yield. The previous 10-year average production is 24,924,000 bushels, the average yield for that period being 120 bushels per acre.

Total potato production in the United States is forecast at 369,825,000 bushels which is three percent larger than the 1941 production but slightly lower than the previous 10-year average. The indicated yield of 132.2 bushels per acre is 1.3 bushels above that for 1941 and is slightly above the 1940 record yield of 132 bushels.

SUGGEST SPRAYS FOR MITES IN POULTRY

POULTRYMEN and farmers are urged by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to guard against red mites, which multiply rapidly during warm weather and which are disastrous to profits as they weaken the birds by feeding upon their blood. The mites live mostly in concealment in crevices in the woodwork and do their feeding upon the birds at night.

Rigid sanitary measures and spraying will rid the poultry house of the mites, according to bureau officials. Wood preservers containing anthracene oil are said to be effective. Crank case oil diluted with one part of kerosene to four parts of oil is sometimes used but if spread too heavily may cause soiling of eggs and plumage. A cheap and effective spray is an emulsion made by dissolving and boiling a quarter pound of soap in a gallon of soft water, to which, after taken from the fire, is added two gallons of kerosene while the solution is still warm. This mixture is further diluted by adding eight to ten parts of soft water.

SWEET CORN ACREAGE IS UP 15 PERCENT

THE corn canning season will be ushered in the latter part of this month with the opening of operations in York County, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. Surveys show that farmers of this State have contracted to grow 15,400 acres of that crop for canneries this year, which is the largest acreage ever grown in Pennsylvania, registering an increase of 15 percent over the 1941 plantings. The average yield in the past has been between two and two and one-half tons per acre, and prospects are said to be favorable for a satisfactory yield this year.

Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture has stated that a large part of this year's crop has been contracted for on the basis of grade under Federal-State inspection, which assures definitely established quality to the consumer and an equitable basis of payment to the grower by the canner.

APPLE CROP OUTLOOK EXCEEDS THAT OF '41

THE condition of the Pennsylvania apple crop at the time of the latest survey was placed at 63 percent of normal, according to the Department of Agriculture which puts the crop in a better condition by three percent than the 1941 crop at the similar period. The average condition of the crop for the years from 1935 to 1939 was 58 percent, which gave a better outlook at the time of the survey for the apple crop this year than that which existed over the past seven years. Weather conditions, however, can still play an important part in the ultimate production.

63.44% PRODUCTION REGISTERED IN TEST

AT the end of the forty-first week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test, egg production registered 63.44 percent with an average production per bird of 182.10 eggs. Total number of eggs produced was 201,221 and the average weight was 24.58 ounces per dozen.

PA. LEADS IN MFG. OF ICE CREAM IN '41 OTHER GAINS SHOWN

WITH a total manufactured output of 48,598,000 gallons in 1941, Pennsylvania occupied first place among all the States in the production of ice cream, registering a gain of 6,496,000 gallons over the 1940 output, according to compilations made by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service in cooperation with the State Department of Internal Affairs, released by the Department of Agriculture. New York held second place with a manufactured output of 44,969,000 gallons.

Interesting variations are shown in other manufactured dairy products in this State, many of them influenced by war conditions. The manufacture of Italian cheese, imports of which have been entirely cut off, increased to 827,000 pounds last year from 268,000 pounds in 1940. The manufacture of cottage cheese also showed a gain from 13,704,000 pounds in 1940 to 15,397,000 pounds last year, while the manufacture of cream cheese dropped from 7,402,000 pounds in 1940 to 5,824,000 pounds in 1941.

Manufacture of sweetened condensed milk advanced from 13,615,000 pounds in 1940 to 16,625,000 pounds last year; evaporated milk showed a gain from 55,990,000 pounds to 59,455,000 pounds, and powdered whole milk registered the phenomenal gain from 67,000 pounds to 744,000 pounds.

Amounts of other manufactured dairy products last year with 1940 comparisons are:

	1941 1,000 lbs.	1940 1,000 lbs.
Creamery butter	15,124	15,582
American Cheddar cheese	1,925	1,580
Swiss cheese	672	682
Unsweetened condensed milk	42,708	41,814
Concentrated skim milk (for animal feed)	6,147	6,092
Condensed or evaporated buttermilk	3,355	3,545
Powdered skim milk (human consumption)	14,236	14,076
Powdered skim milk (animal feed)	2,561	2,828
Dried casein	128	93

Total milk production in this State continues at a high mark, increases still being noted in the number of milk cows. The average production of 21 pounds per cow in the latest report was the same as that recorded on the similar date last year. Production in the country as a whole in June, estimated at 12.6 billion pounds, exceeded the record for any other month by four percent.

In this State pastures at the beginning of the month were in splendid condition and furnishing considerably more feed than last year at the similar time. Crop prospects for the State are said to be favorable and the indicated production of feed and hay was four percent better than the 1941 production. This increase if realized would probably be about the same as the gain in feed requirements because of greater livestock numbers.

Feed prices are said to have shown some tendency to decline. Prices of oilseed meals are below maximum price ceilings based on March levels and are expected to be relatively low since large quantities will be produced in the record crushing for oil this year. Prices of most feeds will probably average higher during the 1942-43 season than during the current feeding season. The supply of high-protein feeds is expected to be larger than last year but demand for feeds is expected to be the strongest in recent years.

PEACH CANNING IS ADVANCED THIS YEAR

HARVESTING of the Pennsylvania peach crop this year will begin at least a week in advance of the average season, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. The peak of the peach season is expected to be reached the latter part of August with the end of the month bringing virtual completion of the harvesting in the south-central peach belt. In the northern areas, however, the season is expected to extend well into September.

As a result of the earlier ripening of peaches Pennsylvania housewives must plan for an earlier canning season, it being expected that the Elberta, Hale and other good canning varieties will be on the market by the middle of August.

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FOUR POINT RISE IN FARMER PRICE INDEX RECORDED IN MONTH

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products increased four points during the month ended July 15, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. On the basis of figuring the 1910-14 period representing 100, the index of all farm products on that date was 160 compared with 156 a month previously and 134 on July 15, 1941. On the same basis the prices that farmers pay for the things they need was 152, unchanged from a month earlier, but showing an advance from 130 during the year, and the farmers' purchasing power is placed at 105, an advance from 103 which prevailed both a month and a year previously.

The index places grains at 114 compared with 120 a month earlier; fruits, 149 compared with 192; meat animals, 182 compared with 177; dairy products, 178 compared with 172, and chickens and eggs, 137 compared with 124. The indicated price for milk as of July 15 is placed at $2.75 per hundredweight compared with $2.60 a month earlier and $2.30 on July 15, 1941.

Following is a list of Pennsylvania prices on July 15 compared with the similar date a year ago:

Commodity	Unit	July 15, 1941	July 15, 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$ .98	$ 1.04
Corn	Bu.	.83	.93
Oats	Bu.	.45	.57
Barley	Bu.	.58	.66
Rye	Bu.	.65	.76
Buckwheat	Bu.	.63	.81
Potatoes	Bu.	1.05	1.25
Apples	Bu.	1.05	1.20
Hay	Ton	10.50	11.90
Hogs	Cwt.	10.50	14.00
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	9.10	11.50
Veal Calves	Cwt.	11.10	14.10
Sheep	Cwt.	3.85	5.00
Lambs	Cwt.	10.00	12.50
Milk Cows	Head	88.00	109.00
Horses	Head	111.00	121.00
Mules	Head	121.00	131.00
Chickens	Lb.	.193	.214
Turkeys	Lb.	.230	.265
Milk, retail	Qt.	.117	.130
Butter	Lb.	.35	.38
Butterfat	Lb.	.35	.38
Eggs	Doz.	.297	.332
Wool	Lb.	.41	.44

EGG PRICES HIGHEST AT TRI-COUNTY MARKET

AVERAGE prices for the four top grades of both white and brown eggs during the second quarter of this year at the Tri-County Market at Worcester, held a slight lead over other cooperative egg markets in this State, it is shown by reports of the Department of Agriculture. During that period the average for that market for white eggs was 34.23 cents per dozen and for brown eggs, 32.99 cents per dozen.

Average prices received at the other markets in this State were as follows: Bucks County, white, 34.10 cents, brown, 32.12 cents; Butler Cooperative, white, 32.20 cents, brown, 30.56 cents; Coatsville, white, 33.72 cents, brown, 32.44 cents; Lehigh Valley, white, 33.96 cents, brown, 32.10 cents; Philadelphia, white, 30.94 cents, brown, 30.27 cents.

The Coatsville market held the lead in the total sales of all grades, a total of 64,605 cases being disposed of through that market. Sales at other markets were as follows: Bucks, 59,710 cases; Butler, 54,588 cases; Lehigh Valley, 37,699 cases, and Tri-County, 42,528 cases, making a total of 259,130 cases of eggs of all grades sold during the period at the cooperative markets in this State.

WHEAT IN STORAGE AT NEW HIGH POINT

STOCKS of old wheat in interior mills, elevators and warehouses in Pennsylvania on July 1, placed at 380,000 bushels reached the highest point during the years since 1931, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service survey issued by the State Department of Agriculture. The stocks recorded on the similar date last year amounted to 280,000 bushels and for the previous 10-year average the total was 264,000 bushels.

Throughout the country stocks held in those quarters, combined with the stocks held on farms, totaled 301,333,000 bushels, bringing the combined stocks to be the largest on record. Last year on the similar date, the total amounted to 161,155,000 bushels and the previous 10-year average was 97,292,000 bushels.

SNAP BEAN CROP IS FAR ABOVE AVERAGE

INDICATIONS point to a production of 5,900 tons of snap beans this year in Pennsylvania, according to Federal-State Crop Reporting surveys issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. This is an advance of 2,200 tons over last year and represents by a wide margin the high mark for this State. The average production for the years from 1931 to 1940 was 3,200 tons.

The acreage planted to the crop this year is placed at 4,200 acres compared with the latest adjusted figure of 3,060 acres harvested last year and the previous 10-year average of 2,210 acres. The average yield of 1.4 tons per acre this year is the same as the 1931-40 average but slightly increased over the 1.2 tons last year.

This State ranks seventh among all bean producing States in the acreage devoted to the crop this year and ranked 10th last year on the basis of the value of sales.

NO GREAT INCREASE NOTED IN BEETLES

REPORTS of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture show that there is no general evident increase of Japanese beetles in this State, although in some areas rather heavy infestations are found, resulting in damage to various forms of plants. It is pointed out, however, that increases may yet occur as the season advances. Due to the dry weather in the Eastern area during the early Summer season, the flight of the beetle was delayed beyond the usual period, but in spite of that condition, some areas in Lancaster County report heavy infestations.

Scouting by bureau agents show that the city of Philadelphia, the original center of infestation in this State, is practically free of the pests. They are now exceedingly scarce, reports show, in the down town markets and along the river fronts, where during the early period of infestation, the beetles swarmed in such great numbers that loading of freight cars was carried on only during the night, as the pests swarmed into the cars if loaded during the day time, and in the cases of refrigerator cars would have lived over sufficient periods to have caused the infestation of sections to which the freight was hauled.

The course followed by the beetle in Philadelphia over the years since its development there is interestingly shown in a compilation of the bureau which states that in 1927 there were more beetles north of Market Street than to the south. In 1928 the reverse is shown to be the case. In 1929 they were about equally divided between the two areas. In 1930, 1931 and 1932 there were more beetles to the south and that condition also existed in 1933, excepting that a decrease was noted to the north. In 1934 they were more numerous to the south but a return in greater numbers was noted in the north. In 1935 increased numbers were reported in both areas, with a greater infestation in the southern section. In 1936 a decrease was reported in both areas, but the pests were more numerous in the south. A slight increase was noted in 1937 but since 1938 the number has been steadily decreasing until this season when it is reported that there is practically no infestation.

POTATO CROP MAY BE REDUCED BY BLIGHT

BLIGHT on the late crop of Pennsylvania potatoes may cause considerable loss to growers and a telling reduction in the crop, according to surveys of field agents of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The disease is said to be most prevalent in the mountainous areas which include the heavy producing sections of Potter and Somerset counties. It has also infected fields in the East to a varying extent. The infection is reported to be general and the hope of cutting down heavy losses is said to be in regular and thorough spraying.

Many small unsprayed plots are reported to be entirely wiped out by the disease and serious damage to larger sprayed fields has already resulted.

The condition is said to have been caused largely by the exceedingly wet weather which not alone encourages the development of the disease but prevents regular spraying.

GROWING OF BARLEY SHOWS BIG ADVANCE IN PA. SINCE 1924

GROWING of barley in Pennsylvania has been making a rather consistent and phenomenal advance since 1924, according to the records of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has pointed out. It was about that time that progress began in the growing of winter barley in this State, most of that grain grown previously having been of the spring variety. Development of winter varieties suitable for this State, Secretary Light stated, has met with such success that at the present time probably 90 percent of the barley grown is of that variety, but experiments in the devlopment of still other varieties is continuing.

In 1924 only 11,000 acres were devoted to that grain, most of which was spring barley. In 1929 the acreage had jumped to 36,000 showing the success of winter varieties. The increase continued each year and reached 68,000 acres in 1934 and by 1939 that figure was nearly doubled, 124,000 acres having been devoted to that crop. This marked advance in acreage is attributed to some extent to the promulgation of wheat quotas by the Federal Government, which brought many of the cooperators in that program to turn to barley to make up for the decreased wheat acreage.

In 1940 another advance was made, that year recording 145,000 bushels devoted to that grain, but last year a slight recession occurred, the acreage dropping back to 139,000, but the estimate for this year shows an advance to 149,000 acres, registering an all-time high.

The total production for the State last year is placed at 3,614,000 bushels, bringing the average yield per acre to 26 bushels. The average price per bushel received by the farmer last year was 62 cents, making the total value of the crop $2,241,000.

Among all the counties of the State Lancaster County has been in the lead in barley acreage and production, 18,460 acres having been devoted to that grain in that county last year. York County ranked second with 13,000 acres, Franklin County, third with 12,110 acres and Chester County, fourth with 11,940 acres. Cameron County was the only county in the State in which no barley was grown and Philadelphia, Forest and Pike counties, each with 10 acres, were at the bottom of the list of producing counties.

Lancaster County also heads the list in average yield per acre with 32.7 bushels, followed by Delaware County with 31.7 bushels, but only 460 acres; Chester, 31.2 bushels and Lebanon County, 29.3 bushels from 4,760 acres. Forest County with an average of 18.9 bushels showed the lowest yield per acre for the State.

SWEET CORN ACREAGE BREAKS ALL RECORDS

AS in the case of other vegetable crops for processing, production of sweet corn in Pennsylvania this year will reach an all-time record, according to indications of the surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture. The acreage planted this year increased from 13,400 in 1941 to 15,400 acres, according to preliminary reports, which is an advance of 15 percent. The average acreage devoted to the crop during the years from 1931 to 1940 was 7,680 which places the increase this year at nearly 50 percent of that average.

Bantam and other yellow varieties are by far the most popular of any of the varieties grown in this State as is shown by the fact that the acreage devoted to those varieties is 8,620 acres, which is nearly double that devoted to the white varieties. Acreage planted to the white varieties is divided between Evergreen and narrow grain corn with 4,160 acres and Country Gentlemen to which 2,620 acres have been planted.

AVERAGE ACRE VALUE FOR TOMATOES RISES

THE average value per acre of tomatoes grown on Pennsylvania farms last year was $197.92, which was a large increase above any of the previously recorded 11 years. The average for 1940 is $161.40 and for the previous 10 years, $155.48.

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QUARANTINES VITAL IN WORK TO CONTROL SPREAD OF INSECTS

A BRIEF resume covering the importance of plant quarantines has been made by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture at the direction of Secretary John H. Light in which it is stated that plant quarantines are never popular with the public because they frequently restrict the movement of certain commodities, but that it is encouraging to note that few individuals fail to fully cooperate after they are informed of the purpose of the quarantine.

The plant quarantine most talked about in this part of the country is that pertaining to the Japanese beetle which was set up about 20 years ago and about the only important change made in the wording during those years has been that incident to the addition of infested territory. The purpose of the quarantine was to retard the spread of the new and dangerous looking plant pest until such time as control measures might be developed. The natural rate of spread each year seemed to be only about two to three miles, so regulations were set up to head off artificial spread. This meant restricting the movement of materials on which the insect might be carried.

The grub and egg stage of the beetle are found in the ground, while the beetle or adult stage will be seen about plants, particularly on buds, bloosoms and fruit. The restrictions were made to include plants with soil about the roots, bulk soil, sand and similar materials to control grub and egg dispersal and the above ground parts of plants favored by the beetle, for the control of the spread of the adult beetle.

As it turned out, the Japanese beetle developed into a successful "hitch hiker" and got many lifts from passing motor cars. It also has done well as a "train hopper." However, the quarantine accomplished its purpose fairly well, the area of heavy beetle population having pushed out only about 60 miles west and northwest from Philadelphia, the original point of infestation. There are, however, outlying areas which have some beetles due to the movement of infested materials in spite of the quarantine.

During the 20 years, control measures have been fairly well worked out and ways of living with the beetle devised so that now it is felt that insofar as Pennsylvania is concerned, the quarantine has largely served its purpose. However, because of the movement of nursery stock, farm and greenhouse crops to other states, restrictions made by those states in respect to soil treatment, packing of products and a few other requirements must be satisfied. This is to assure other states of the freedom of Pennsylvania products from the various stages of the beetle.

The European corn borer was once the subject of a plant quarantine, both State and Federal. With the continued and rapid spread of that insect the restrictions were discontinued, but before the restrictions were revoked, it was shown that certain cultural practices, if followed by the entire community, resulted in satisfactory control. Corn now moves unrestricted in Pennsylvania, but many uninfested states have quarantines against corn and related crops from this state which might bring to them the corn borer.

At the present time efforts are directed toward the suppression of other plant pests, most of which are listed for control by extermination or eradication. The gypsy moth, potato wart, Dutch elm disease and black stem rust of cereal grains are pests which are being attacked in this manner. The gypsy moth quarantine restricts the movement of certain materials which might serve as carriers of the egg masses since it is in this stage that it is most likely to be carried any great distance. Black stem rust and Dutch elm disease regulations also restrict movements of materials likely to carry those diseases. The potato wart disease is being combatted by means of soil sterilization and Dutch elm disease is eradicated by removal and burning of diseased elm trees.

Some plant pests, particularly diseases, have peculiar habits which must be understood to fully see the significance of certain quarantine restrictions. The black stem rust of cereals and its intimate relation to the growing of wheat, oats and related crops, is cited as an example. It is an organism which leads a double life, not spending a part of its life on the common barberry and a second stage on the grain crops. Separate the two sets of plants by destroying the worthless barberry, and the pest will die out and this is accomplished by setting up restrictions to control the disease. White pine blister rust and cedar apple rust are other diseases of the same type and their control involves similar procedure.

It is pointed out that all quarantines are established solely for the purpose of protecting the crop producer and the general public by attempting to restrict the spread of or to eradicate definitely harmful plant pests.

GRADING DECISION IS FAVORABLE TO DEPT.

THE right of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to require that foods brought into this State for resale must comply with the grades established by the department for the protection of the consuming public and Pennsylvania producers, has been sustained in a decision just announced by the Common Pleas Court of Fayette County.

The decision, considered of far-reaching importance, was the outgrowth of the action of the Department of Agriculture agents a few months ago in ordering discontinuance of the resale of potatoes from a carload shipment brought from another State on the basis that they did not comply with the Pennsylvania grading law. The case was heard before an alderman in Uniontown, who decided for the Department of Agriculture. The case was appealed by the potato dealer to the county court.

When notified of the decision Secretary John H. Light stated: "I am greatly gratified over the decision which not only clearly defines our rights in the matter of enforcing the grading laws of this State, but at the same time assures that protection for both the Pennsylvania consumer and producer to which they are entitled. High standards have been adopted by the producers of this State with a result that Pennsylvania products hold an enviable position on the markets. The consumer is assured of the represented quality when purchasing certified potatoes, fruits and vegetables and it would certainly prove a great disadvantage if out-of-state growers were privileged to break down those standards by not being required to adhere to Pennsylvania grades."

40,569 CATTLE ARE BANG TESTED IN MO.

DURING the month of July 2,817 herds comprising 40,569 cattle were tested for Bang disease in this State under direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to reports to Secretary John H. Light. Of the number tested infection was found in 589 herds representing 20.9 percent and a total of 1,513 cattle were found to be affected by the disease, which was 3.7 percent of the total number tested. At the end of that month there were 74,088 herds comprising 645,763 cattle in both the individual and area plans, under Bang control supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

During the month of July indemnities paid by the State amounted to $53,226, representing payments for 1,683 cattle and Federal indemnities totaled $38,584 for 1,421 cattle during that month.

In addition to the cattle under supervision in the Bang disease control program, the report shows that there are also 173 goat herds comprising 1,468 animals similarly supervised, 191 goats having been tested during the past month, all of which were free of the disease.

REPORT LOW PRICES FOR EARLY POTATOES

MUCH concern is being felt by growers of early potatoes over the low prices which are prevailing, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. Some reports state that growers are receiving as low as 50 cents per bushel, which it is claimed is not sufficient to cover cost of production with increased labor costs and the cost of bags ranging from 11 to 16 cents each. This situation is said to prevail throughout the entire Eastern and Northeastern area of the country. It is also reported that in many instances the early yield has been disappointing.

Although Pennsylvania produces a large crop of early potatoes, the major crop is of the late variety.

RECORDS SHOW RYE LOSING POPULARITY AS GRAIN IN PENNA.

CONSISTENT decrease in the production of rye in Pennsylvania over the past years, as shown by records of the State Department of Agriculture dating back to 1866, show the increasing unpopularity of that crop as a source of grain. The extent of the change which has been brought is seen in the compiled data which shows that in 1866 483,065 acres were devoted to that crop but this year the acreage has dwindled to 58,000 acres. The average yield per acre is also below the averages for most of the years previous to 1927.

The high point in acreage was reached in 1867 when 498,686 acres were devoted to that crop. With an average yield per acre of 13.7 bushels, that was also the banner year in total production which amounted to 6,832,000 bushels and with the average price per bushel that year of $1.01, the value of the crop was also the greatest of any recorded year. The following year there was a decline in acreage of more than 40,000 acres which has been consistent excepting for a few years when a rebound is recorded, with the decline again taking over in 1885. That recession was halted and reverted to an increase again in 1901 when 383,596 acres were devoted to the crop, but another decline started from that point the following year.

In 1920 for the first time the acreage dropped below the 200,000 mark, but rose again above that figure in 1922 and 1923 when 215,000 acres were devoted to rye, but a sharp decrease took place the following year when the grain was produced on only 125,000 acres. In 1926 the acreage dipped for the first time below the 100,000 mark, going to 93,000 acres in that year and to 78,000 acres in 1927. In 1940 the rye acreage was only 60,000 acres and 57,000 acres in 1941.

The highest average yield per acre was 19 bushels attained in 1897 and the lowest recorded yield was 8.2 bushels in 1885. The highest average price per bushel was $1.70 which prevailed in 1917, followed by $1.65 per bushel in 1918; $1.57 in 1919, and $1.40 in 1920. The average price last year was 71 cents, giving a total value of the crop in that year of $567,000. The lowest average price per bushel prevailed in 1897 when the price was 43 cents per bushel.

In addition to the acreage devoted to the crop for the production of grain, approximately 25,000 acres are sown annually to rye which is used for other purposes, such as harvesting for straw and as a cover crop.

Franklin County holds a heavy lead over all other counties of this State in the production of that grain, the acreage last year being placed at 7,250 acres. Cumberland County is second among the counties with 4,200 acres. The average acre yield in the former county was 13.6 bushels and in the latter county, 12.2 bushels. Rye was grown in every county excepting Cameron County and Warren and McKean counties, each with 10 acres devoted to the crop, are the lowest producing counties.

In commenting upon the reduced production of the grain, Secretary John H. Light suggested two possibilities as the cause. He stated that, "it will be noted from the records that as rye acreage declined, wheat acreage increased until the period some years ago when wheat production also started downward, accelerated during the past few years by the allotment plan of the Federal Government, suggesting that farmers turned to wheat from rye during the heavier acreage years for those grains.

"The factor which could have contributed to the change was the development of the dairy industry in this State which brought with it a decline in hog raising and the use of rye as feed is confined largely to hogs."

TEST SHOWS 62.46% AVERAGE PRODUCTION

AT the end of the 44th week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test, average production stood at 62.46 percent and the average number of eggs per bird was 192.36. A total of 212,566 eggs were produced, the average weight of which was 24.60 ounces per dozen.

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STATE SURVEY SHOWS NO SERIOUS DAMAGE CAUSED BY RUSTS

NO serious damage has been caused by grain rust this year to cereal grains in this State, according to observations of agents of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has stated. Observations on the prevalence of the damage was made by the bureau specialists in 39 counties during the current season.

Due to hot, dry weather through April and the first half of May, there was little development of the barberry stage of stem rust, the report shows, which it is believed had much to do with the failure of the rust to appear later on the grain crops, although weather conditions were favorable for its development from the middle of May to the end of harvest. As a result only a few cases of stem rust on wheat, barley, oats and rye have been found and the total damage is reported to be negligible.

Leaf rust, however, has been generally found heavy on wheat throughout the State and the quality of the grain has been somewhat lowered. That type of rust has also been found to be general on the oats crop, but damage was not considered material except possibly in the southern counties.

PEACH CROP ABOUT EQUAL TO LAST YEAR

INDICATED production of the Pennsylvania peach crop is about equal to that of last year, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service survey issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The production is placed at 1,822,000 bushels compared with 1,845,000 bushels last year, which is greatly in excess of the previous 10-year average production of 1,656,000 bushels.

Quality of the early crop was reported to be high and the demand unusually heavy. This is now reported to hold true of the major crop which is now being harvested.

A decrease of five hundred tons below the 1941 crop is indicated in the report for this year's cherry production, but the figure shows a heavy increase over the 1930-39 average production. Latest indications place the yield this year at 9,300 tons compared with 9,800 tons last year and the 10-year average of 7,704 tons.

An increase of 116,000 bushels over last year is indicated for this year's pear crop, but that production is far below the average production for the years from 1930 to 1939. Production for this year is indicated to be 466,000 bushels compared with 350,000 bushels last year. The average for the 10-year period is 609,000 bushels.

DEMAND FOR PEACHES EXCEEDING SUPPLY

DEMAND for Pennsylvania peaches is exceeding the supply, according to reports received by the Department of Agriculture. Orchardists say they are being strained to the limit to pick the fruit fast enough to supply buyers who go to the orchards for orders ranging from a few baskets to large truck loads. It is believed the exceedingly heavy demand is caused by consumers canning more of the fruit than normally. It is stated that rationing boards have been advised to allow the required amount of sugar for canning fruits to assure that there will be no waste.

Reports show that the peach crop is of fine quality this season as a result of the abundant rainfall. It is of large size, well colored and highly flavored.

The principal harvest of the crop, including the Alberta and Hale varieties, started last week in Southcentral Pennsylvania and will continue for several weeks. It is anticipated that the demand will continue heavy throughout the harvesting season.

INDICATIONS POINT TO GOOD GRAPE CROP

REPORTS of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light show that the grape crop in the Erie belt of the State is expected to ripen at least two weeks ahead of the ripening period last year and that grape clusters in that area are exceptionally large.

SUGGEST METHODS TO CONTROL QUACKGRASS

ALTHOUGH quackgrass is known as the most noxious weed where it prevails, it has two redeeming features, according to the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. These qualities are that it makes good hay and produces two crops yearly and being a sweet pasture, cattle eat it greedily, and its matted rootstalks make it unsurpassed as a soil binder in steep gullies or on roadside embankments. As a possible cover for airports it gained prominence a few years ago, but it was found that farms, adjacent to ports with this covering, would soon be overrun with the ruinous weed.

Its tenacity of life makes the grass a pest not easily controlled when it gets a foothold in cultivated grounds. The jointed, branching underground stem or rootstock of the plant which is capable of budding a new plant at every joint, enables it to spread so rapidly as to crowd out other plants. The seed of the grass is frequently found as an impurity in wheat, rye, oats, barley and other grasses, particularly broom grass, which is pointed to as an indication of the importance of sowing tested seeds.

It is stated that there is no easy way to subdue quackgrass but that it can be done, sometimes in a single season. Three methods of destruction are given which are by shading, cultivation and by use of chemicals.

The store house of the plant is in the creeping rootstalks; the material for the growth of which, comes from the food assimilated by the green leaves, therefore no green leaves should be allowed to develop. Small areas may be smothered to death by being covered with boards, heavy building paper or old linoleum, pegged down so that the air is excluded and the wind cannot stir it. Two or three months of such exclusion of air and sunlight will leave the rootstocks withered and dead.

On large areas, it is recommended, that the field be pastured closely for an entire growing season then if the sod is well turned under, rolled and harrowed, much of the grass will be killed at once. Ordinarily, fall or early spring plowing followed by cultivation with a shovel-toothed cultivator every three days, until the middle of June, will keep the green leaves from showing themselves. A late crop of corn can be grown on this land and the last spears of grass killed by its cultivation.

When quackgrass takes possession of cultivated ground, its rootstocks are deeper in the soil, than in pastures in meadows. An early fall plowing with the furrows turned just deep enough to cut the matted rootstocks free from the subsoil, followed by a toothed harrowing to work the rootstocks free from the soil so that they can be raked into piles and burned is an effective way to fight quackgrass. Two bouts of this practice followed by a hoed crop, thoroughly tilled until midsummer, will clean out the pest.

The chemical most commonly used in the control of weeds is sodium chlorate. However, if enough of this to kill quackgrass is used, it will kill all other vegetation also. For application the sodium chlorate should be made into a solution at the rate of one pound to a gallon of water. In June, a single spraying may do the work but usually two or three are necessary to kill all of the plants. The soil is not immediately productive after sodium chlorate has been used and many precautions should be observed in handling this chemical for under certain conditions it is explosive.

DOGS CAUSE DAMAGE COSTING STATE $1,914

THE Dog Law Enforcement Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture reported to Secretary John H. Light that during the month of July 1,384 stray and uncontrolled dogs were killed by police officers throughout the State and that 50 stray dogs were killed by agents of the bureau. During the same period 93 claims for damages caused by dogs to livestock and poultry were investigated and a total of $1,914 paid by the State in settlement of the claims. Settlements totaling $274 were made between claimants and owners of dogs for damages.

FEW CATTLE REACT IN OFFICIAL TB TEST DURING PAST MONTH

ONLY 277 of the 50,847 cattle tested for tuberculosis during the month of July under supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, were found to be infected with the disease, Secretary John H. Light has announced. During the same period a total of $7,077 was paid by the State and $5,417 by the Federal Government in indemnities for condemned cattle.

The report also shows that during the month 52,626 specimens were reeceived and examined at the laboratory of the bureau, 38,823 of which were of cattle and 13,358 of chickens.

Among the specimens were 44 brains of animals examined for rabies, the disease having been found in 18 of that number. It was stated that 47 persons and 260 animals were bitten or exposed to rabid dogs, cases having been reported from Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Centre, Clarion, Crawford, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango and Westmoreland counties.

Under the direction of the Meat Hygiene Division of the Bureau, 34,760 antemortem examinations were made and 119 carcasses of cattle intended for meat consumption were condemned. Examination of sanitary conditions were made of 650 meat establishments. A total of 3,835,555 pounds of meat and meat products were examined and 23,673 pounds condemned. Examination was also made of 1,711,852 pounds of organs of which 100,704 pounds were condemned.

UNCERTAINTY SEEN IN PA. POTATO CROP

CONDITION of the potato crop in this State is seen to be very irregular from surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light. Potatoes attained rank vine growth but blight on the late crop is widespread, particularly on unsprayed fields and many vines are dying. Showers were so frequent in many localities that even sprayed fields became blighted because the spray was frequently washed off the vines shortly after being applied. Yields will be cut by the blight but it is too early to forecast to what extent since much still depends upon weather conditions. Abundant moisture supplies during July were beneficial to the sizing of the tubers.

Latest indications point to a total production of 20,066,000 bushels or an average yield per acre of 127 bushels, compared with the production of 20,540,000 bushels last year and and average acre yield of 130 bushels. The 158,000 acres planted to the crop is the same as the 1941 acreage.

Total production of potatoes in the United States is placed at 378,175,000 bushels, which is six percent above the production of last year and about two percent above the previous 10-year average.

EXPECT RECORD IN CANNING TOMATOES

WHAT promises to be the heaviest tomato canning season in the history of that industry in this State is now under way in the heavier producing areas. On the basis of increased acreage alone planted to this crop which is estimated this year at 27,000 acres compared with 20,600 acres last year and 19,000 acres in 1940, production records are expected. The season is said to have been favorable for growth in most sections, although rainfall has been excessive and yield will be largely determined by weather conditions during the ripening period when dry weather and sunshine are essential.

Secretary Light of the Department of Agriculture has stated that licensed inspectors are now located at producing sections of the State where most of the tomatoes used for canning are purchased by the canneries and sold to the consumers on the basis of established grades and official inspection.

DECREASE IN CATTLE BEING FED FOR MEAT

THE number of cattle on feed for market in the Corn Belt States on August 1 this year was sharply lower than the record number on feed a year earlier. The decrease for this area was estimated at 19 percent.

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EGG PRODUCTION IS MAINTAINED AT HIGH LEVELS ON PA. FARMS

IN spite of a decline in layers, which, however, has been about usual during July, and production per layer having declined somewhat sharper than last July, record volume of egg production during the past month was maintained in Pennsylvania, surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light show. This has been caused by the greater number of layers in flocks compared with last July. Pullets on August 1 available as potential layers this winter probably were about 14 percent more than on the similar date last year. Preliminary estimates of the number of chickens raised on farms in this State during 1942 indicate an increase of four percent compared with 1941. In the entire country the increase is estimated at 10 percent, the highest gains being made in the West North Central and South Central states. The number of chickens raised this year is indicated to be the largest on record because of the war demands for dried eggs for lease-lend shipments.

The number of layers on Pennsylvania farms on August 1 are shown to be 12,900,000 compared with 13,514,000 on July 1 and 11,783,000 on August 1 last year. Egg production is listed at 191 million on August 1 compared with 216 million eggs on July 1 and 178 million eggs on August 1 last year. The average monthly number of eggs per layer is placed at 14.8 on August 1, 16 on July 1 and 15.1 on August 1 last year.

Hens and pullets on a nation-wide basis laid 14 percent more eggs during July this year than during July last year and continued record-breaking production levels prevailing this year, the report shows. The total egg production during the first seven months of this year was the largest of record for this period and 16 percent larger than the similar period last year. The rate of egg production per layer during July set a new high record for the month. The number of pullets not yet of laying age on August 1, available for later addition to the laying flocks, was 11 percent larger than a year ago.

Commercial egg breaking plants produced 70 percent more liquid eggs in June than a year earlier. Approximately 35 percent of the output was used for drying, which together with eggs handled by strictly egg driers, accounted for a June dried egg production of 22 million pounds, which was seven times greater than that of June, 1941. Government buying is absorbing the bulk of this production.

SET APPLE CROP AT 10 MILLION BUSHELS

APPROXIMATELY one bushel of apples for each man, woman and child in Pennsylvania are approaching harvest in this State, the 1942 crop being estimated by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service at 10,159,000 bushels, Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light has announced, which places the crop considerably above that of last year, when the production was placed at 8,643,000 bushels and in excess of the previous five-year average production of 9,090,000 bushels.

Many of these apples will enter the fresh fruit markets, either at the time of harvest or later in the year, being moved into storage from the orchards, others will be utilized in the vast canning factories of this State and some of the crop will be used by the farm families for home consumption.

Heavy rains during July in the Berks-Lehigh area brought on rapid sizing and apples are reported to be unusually large for the time of season and are also generally clean of disease. Few apples have dropped from the trees. The Delicious variety is large but of rather light set. The Rome Beauty made extra growth while some Jonathan were blighted. In the Adams-Franklin-York area the crop has been sizing nicely. The fruit is clean but aphis damage is reported to be apparent in some orchards. The red apple fog has been reported in orchards of Carbon and Luzerne counties. Dry weather in the western counties has prevented proper sizing.

The apple crop has been greatly reduced in the northeastern area where late frosts hit the blossoms.

BIG GAIN INDICATED IN BEAN PRODUCTION

IN spite of the wet weather which has had an adverse effect, latest indications show that Pennsylvania vegetable growers have left snap bean production figures of previous years far in the rear, preliminary estimates placing this year's crop at 608,000 bushels compared with 378,000 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 384,000 bushels, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Survey issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture.

Since the number of acres planted to the crop this year shows an increase of only 50 acres above last year's acreage, the far heavier production is practically entirely accounted for by the greater yield per acre, which this year is placed at 190 bushels from the 3,200 acres planted. Last year the yield was 120 bushels per acre which was exceedingly low because of the excessive dry weather. The previous 10-year average showed 158 bushels per acre from 2,460 acres.

Marketing of the late crop is expected to be heavy during the early part of September.

TIMOTHY SEED CROP DOUBLE 1941 OUTPUT

TIMOTHY seed production this year in Pennsylvania is estimated about double the 1941 production, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. A total of 7,600 acres were harvested this year compared with only 4,500 acres last year. The indicated average yield of this year's crop of 2.95 bushels per acre is slightly higher than the yield of 2.65 bushels per acre obtained last year and production on a thresher-run basis is estimated at 22,000 bushels this year and 11,900 bushels last year. Loss in cleaning is estimated at 12 percent. Approximately half of the crop will be sold to dealers, 32 percent to farmers and the remainder will be used on the farms where it was grown.

Production of timothy seed on a country-wide basis, estimated at 1,612,000 bushels, is the largest in five years, but is seven percent below the 1930-39 average. The 28 percent increase over last year's production is attributed in part to 18 percent more acres and eight percent increase in yield per acre. The largest percentage increases in production are expected in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota and Indiana. Principal reasons given for increase in average over last year are ample supplies of hay, excellent condition of pastures, listed on a country-wide basis as being the best in 22 years, rains in several states at the time the timothy hay crop was to be cut and prospective good yields of timothy seed.

Carry-over of clean seed on farms is estimated at approximately 75,000 bushels this year and 88,000 bushels in 1941. Supplies, which is production combined with farm and dealer carry-overs, of clean seed at this time, totaling approximately 1,818,000 bushels, are about 14 percent larger than last year and three percent above the 1940 supplies. The larger stocks reflect a decline in sales of most seeds during the spring and early summer of this year and the larger production of certain seeds last year than in 1940. Seed stocks showing increases over last year were red clover 60 percent, sweet clover 10 percent, Ladino clover 542 percent, rye grass four percent and crested wheat grass 89 percent. Stocks which were smaller are timothy 23 percent, alfalfa nine percent, hairy vetch seven percent and bent grass six percent.

INCREASE EXPECTED IN CABBAGE YIELD

THE Pennsylvania cabbage crop is indicated to be 55,800 tons compared with 50,200 tons last year and the previous 10-year average of 40,200 tons, by the surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light. Production of cabbage in the first section of the late states is expected to approximate 408,200 tons, which is 11 percent greater than the 1931-40 average. The decrease from 1941 is caused by a smaller acreage, since the average yield is expected to equal that of last year. The yield is placed at 8.8 tons, compared with the 1931-40 average of 7.9 tons.

RECORD LEVELS ARE BEING MAINTAINED IN MILK PRODUCTION

MILK continues the exceedingly heavy flow established by Pennsylvania farmers to help supply the great war demands, milk production per cow reported having averaged 18.4 pounds on August 1, which is about equal to the previous high record for that date established last year, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service survey issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. Contributing to the heavy milk flow has been the excellent condition of pastures which at the beginning of the month was the best August 1 average in 15 years. This has been caused by the great amount of rain, which in this instance proved of much value while at the same time bringing difficulties in the harvesting of grains and hay, resulting in losses in some crops.

Grain feeding was reported heavy in spite of the good pasture feed yields. Value of grain rations fed dairy cows averaged $2.18 per hundredweight in the August special dairy survey, Secretary Light announced, which was the same as the May figure and is said to be further indication of the tendency of feed prices to level off in recent months. Compared with a year ago, however, the cost of dairy ration is 33 cents more per hundredweight, an increase of 17 percent. The increase in the price of milk received by farmers over that period is reported to be 19 percent.

Although prospects are generally favorable for 1942 feed grain crops, the expected increase in livestock numbers and smaller carry-over of feed grains at the close of the 1941-42 marketing year may result in a supply of feed grains per animal unit in 1942-43 to be about 10 percent smaller than a year earlier. However, the total hay supply is expected to be higher than last year and there will likely be a record supply of oilseed cake and meal, perhaps 30 percent larger than in 1941-42. Prices of most feeds probably will average higher in 1942-43 than in 1941-42. Prices of wheat mill-feeds may continue close to their recently established ceilings, although prices of oilseed meals, particularly soybean meal, may remain lower. Although dairy product prices are expected higher this year, dairy product-feed price ratios in the third quarter of 1942 probably will be considerably less favorable to dairymen than the unusually favorable ratios of last summer.

Total milk production on American farms during July is estimated at 11.8 billion pounds—easily a record for that month and nearly five percent more than was produced in July last year. About three and one-half percent of the increase in production from a year earlier was due to an increase in cow numbers. Unusually good pastures, generally ample feed, and moderate temperatures also effected a slight increase in milk production per cow on a national basis.

MORE TOBACCO GROWN FROM LESS ACREAGE

ALTHOUGH the Pennsylvania tobacco acreage was reduced this year to 34,700 acres from 35,400 acres last year, latest surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture, place the indicated production at 2,614,000 pounds above the 1941 crop. The 1942 production figure is given as 54,652,000 pounds. The indicated yield per acre is placed at 1,575 pounds compared with 1,470 pounds last year.

Although threatened by rust the latest reports placed the crop in promising condition, having made rapid progress and being fully two weeks ahead of last year. Topping was begun early and a few fields were cut in advance of the usual season in order to escape rust damage.

The Havana seed crop, indicating a production of 480,000 pounds from 300 acres, the same as last year in both instances, has made good growth but some acreage has been injured by floods and heavy rains.

Celery Is Promising

Western and central counties have fairly good supplies of local celery. Yields and quality are high. Late fields are growing well although some are blighting due to wet weather. In the Bucks-Philadelphia area excellent growth has been made.

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WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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FARMERS LOSS FROM WEEDS ANNUALLY IN EXCESS OF TAXES

According to estimates of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, annual losses in Pennsylvania due to weeds is conservatively placed at $2 per acre. "On this basis," Secretary John H. Light stated "since Pennsylvania has about 24 million acres in tillable land it is readily appreciated that weeds are a source of tremendous losses. As a matter of fact the loss to the farmer can be placed at approximately $125 annually which is between $40 and $50 in excess of the yearly tax bill for the average farm in this State."

It is pointed out by the Bureau of Plant Industry that the control of such noxious weeds as Canada and sow thistle, dodder, horse nettle, pepper grass, cockle, quackgrass, garlic, wild mustard and yellow fox tail will do much to reduce the losses. The loss results from the increased labor in keeping weeds cut, in the preparation of the soil; in cultivating the crops, and in preparing the finished product for market.

Weeds decrease the yields by using the moisture and food material needed by the crop plants; crowding out of crop plants and harboring insects and diseases which destroy the plants. Garlic, thistle, quackgrass, wild carrot and many other weeds reduce the proper drying of the grain, and in turn this reduces the quality.

All noxious weeds fall in one of three classes, annuals, biennials, or perennials. Annuals live only one year and produce flowers and seeds the same season. The entire plant including the root then dies. It usually begins growth in the fall and by the time winter comes a small plant has developed. In the spring the plant continues growth and produces flowers and seeds during the summer. Some of the most noxious annual weeds are crab grass, pepper grass, wild mustard, dodder and ragweed.

The biennials are the plants that live for two years, starting growth in the spring from the seed and producing leaves only, for the first season, storing up lots of food in the roots, which live over winter. The following spring they start growth and produce plants which in time form flowers and seeds. After this the plants die like the annuals. Wild carrot, burdock and bull thistle are some of the most common ones.

Perennials are those that live from year to year, the old stalks usually dying down to the ground in the fall and the following spring produce new stalks. Examples of this class are quackgrass, garlic, dock, and weeds, chicory, horse nettle.

In order to prevent annuals and biennials from reproducing it is necessary to prevent the plants from producing seeds and reseeding. Allowing the weed to produce seed and sowing unclean grain are the two chief means by which the seed is introduced into the soil. In some crops such as corn and potatoes cultivation will keep down the major portion of the weeds. The mowing of fence rows should be done before the plants have produced seeds. In the grain fields it pays to pull by hand such weeds as wild carrot, pepper grass, cockle, quackgrass and garlic.

A different method of eradication is used for Canada thistle. The root system has stored up a tremendous amount of food through the leaves. Cutting off the newly formed leaves at regular intervals prevents this food from being stored up in the root system and each time this is done the root system becomes weaker and will finally die of starvation. When very bad patches of these weeds appear they should be dug up. Chemicals for weed control have been used for years with very satisfactory results. Sodium chlorate is perhaps the most widely used. In broadcasting 200 to 300 pounds per acre should be used or when applied as a liquid 200 pounds is used to each 100 gallons of water. When used at this rate the chemical kills all plants with which it comes in contact, and a crop cannot be seeded that season. Chlorates should be used in fields sown to grain, for cultivation methods are not practical for such a crop.

Most of the weeds produce seeds in great abundance and retain their vitality for a long time. Some such as the mustards have germinated after being buried in the soil for many years. Mustards propagate only by seeds. Such plants should be destroyed at blooming time, when they are much more easily located. Mustards are found very frequently in oats, and many farmers do not like to pay the extra price per bushel for certified grain, but go on year after year planting their own seed or that of their neighbors, which results in a gradual increase in the amount of such weeds as mustards, horse nettle, Canada thistle and quackgrass.

The Department of Agriculture is endeavoring to make it possible for the farmers to secure the best seed possible, and more and more farmers are taking advantage of this service. By writing to the Department of Agriculture they can secure a list of the certified grains in Pennsylvania and a copy of the rules and regulations for the Certification of Grain in this State.

ARE NOW HARVESTING BUMPER APPLE CROP

Harvesting of Pennsylvania's bumper apple crop, which according to the latest surveys indicated a production of 10,159,000 bushels, which is more than one and one-half million bushels in excess of the 1941 yield, has begun in the famous commercial areas of this State, which are in the Franklin and Lehigh-Berks county sections, according to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture.

Harvesting of the earlier varieties of the late or principal crop produced in this State got under way to some extent during the last week in August. Those varieties are the Summer Rambo, Northwest Greening, Smokehouse, McIntosh and Maiden Blush. The middle season varieties are the Cortland, Grimes Golden and the Jonathan which start flowing to market about two weeks after the earlier varieties. They are followed by the late fall varieties which are the Stayman, Delicious, Winesap, Rome Beauty, Golden Delicious and Yorks, the latter being used almost exclusively for processing, because of its unusual excellence for that purpose.

WEATHER CAUSES BIG CUT IN TOMATO CROP

Following heavy rains which occurred during the first three weeks in August and which delayed normal harvesting of tomatoes, Pennsylvania farmers are now hauling large quantities of that product to the numerous canneries in this State. The acreage was increased this year to 28,000 acres, the largest on record, from 20,000 last year, but growers are fearful that the crop will not reach expectations because of the heavy storms and rainfall. However, a favorable late summer and fall season might still result in slightly better than average yields, Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light has stated, judging from the general improvement which immediately accompanied more settled weather conditions.

Last year the average yield for the State was 7.2 tons per acre. Earlier this season it was expected, judging from the outlook at that time, that the 1941 yield might be exceeded but according to latest surveys of agriculture department inspectors, it is possible that the average will be cut down to from four and one-half to six tons per acre.

The quality of the first pickings of the crop was hurt by the abundant rainfalls but it is reported to be rapidly improving as the season advances and as sunshine becomes more prevalent.

DUTCH ELM DISEASE IS HELD IN CHECK

Effectiveness of the program to prevent and suppress Dutch elm disease in this State is indicated in the report of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to Secretary John H. Light in which it is shown that the disease has not been found in any new areas during the year which ended July 31 and that the cases found in the affected sections have not increased above those of the previous year. The work of destruction of trees previously confirmed as being diseased, however, was greatly intensified during the past year. The work of destruction of dead and dying trees in addition to those confirmed as being diseased was also greatly intensified during the year, that number being 21,235 compared with 10,356 destroyed during the year ending July 31, 1941. The number of trees found to be diseased was 292 compared with 293 the previous year. In the control part of the program a total of 2,738 trees were pruned during the year.

The report shows that up to the time of the last report since the program has been in operation a total of 102,447 diseased, dead and dying trees have been destroyed and 58,524 trees have been pruned.

TURKEY PRODUCTION IN PENNA. REACHES ALL-TIME HIGH MARK

In line with other agricultural products under war-time stimulus, turkey production in Pennsylvania is hitting a new high mark, continuing the increased trend which has been taking place over the past several years, according to surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light. Latest indications place the number of turkeys raised this year in this State at 1,020,000 which is an increase of 10 percent over the 927,000 raised last year which was the record up to that time. The number raised in 1940 was 828,000; in 1939, 753,000 and the previous 10-year average is 593,000. This year's indication number places Pennsylvania 14th among all the states of the country in turkey raising.

For the country at large the number of turkeys raised is expected to be increased one percent over last year. Producers' intentions last February indicated an eight percent increase in the turkey crop this year. However, cold, wet weather and floods during the spring months, particularly in the mid-west, resulted in low fertility and unusually heavy death losses of poults from blackhead and exposure. Difficulty in obtaining labor, the high cost of feed and lack of brooding space reduced poult purchases and caused some producers to go out of the turkey business, the report shows.

Turkey marketings this year in the country as a whole are expected to be earlier than in 1941, with 54.4 percent of the crop intended to move in November or earlier, compared with 48.3 percent last year. Christmas and New Year's markets are expected to receive 35.3 percent of the crop compared with 38.9 percent last year.

Marketing intentions for Pennsylvania show an average of 41 percent by November, 44 percent in December and 15 percent in 1943. These proportions, if actually realized would indicate that Pennsylvania growers are tending to shift their marketings to later months and to the Christmas and New Year's markets. Actual marketings, however, usually vary somewhat from intended marketings due to changes in later developments.

GROWERS EXPERIENCE GOOD PEACH SEASON

The commercial peach harvest which was practically ended the last week in August in the south central counties, was about 10 days ahead of normal, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture. In the Berks-Lehigh area the harvesting continued in full stride several days later, that crop being somewhat later than in the Franklin County section. In all the areas, however, peaches for local markets which are left to become more fully ripened are still being harvested.

In spite of reduced crops as a result of unfavorable weather conditions and in some instances a shortage of pickers, the commercial growers all report a most satisfactory season, according to Secretary John H. Light. The demand for peaches has been abnormally heavy throughout the season and prices have been exceptionally good. In practically every case the demand far exceeded the supply, there being a ready market for all grades of the fruit. The quality generally is reported to have been good and the peaches of good size.

The last general survey previous to harvesting indicated that the crop this year would be 1,822,000 bushels or just slightly below the production of 1941, but it is now believed that weather conditions caused a considerable cut in the yield.

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SMALL GROWER MOST AFFECTED BY BLIGHT ON PA. POTATO CROP

SURVEYS being made by specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture of the effects upon the potato crop in this State of the widespread infestation of blight, indicate that the greatest losses will be suffered by the small grower, according to Secretary John H. Light. The great prevalence this year of the disease has been caused by the extremely wet weather conditions. The infection is greatest in the area of higher elevations where the crop develops later in the season. In the lower elevation sections the tubers were already well developed before the blight struck and is therefore expected to cause less damage.

The smaller grower not having equipment to follow a consistent course of spraying is said to be hard hit by the disease as spraying is the only method of counteracting the disease which develops greatly under wet weather conditions. Although blight is found in most areas it is not seriously prevalent in all commercial potato growing enterprises because those growers have sprayed heavily. The difficulty met with in those cases was that rains would wash off the spraying material in many instances soon after it would be applied.

Reports show that many potatoes are small and some fields are being abandoned. It is believed that there may be an effect upon the certified potato seed supply next year since diseased fields cannot be certified and some of the seed fields are being plowed under.

Earlier surveys indicated that the crop this year would amount to 20,066,000 bushels which would be about one-half million bushels below the 1941 production, but it cannot yet be estimated to what extent the blight will cut those indications. The acreage planted, totaling 58,000 acres, is the same as last year.

FUNGUS LEAF BLIGHT ATTACKS CORN CROP

THE Pennsylvania corn crop, particularly in the southeastern area, is being attacked by a fungus leaf blight, it is revealed by surveys made by specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The disease is said to be not uncommon in this State, but is more widespread this season than at any time in the past. It is only during years of excessive moisture that it becomes widely prevalent.

As a result of a protracted rainy season the disease developed earlier than usual this year, it is stated, but it is not believed that the corn crop will suffer material damage. Under more normal conditions the fungus does not attack the crop until toward the end of the growing season and the effect of the attack is not serious.

The first symptoms of the disease are small straw colored blotches on the leaves which develop as the fungus continues its infection until large portions of the leaf blade becomes blighted. As the disease progresses the plants take on the appearance of having been frosted.

The blight occurs on sweet corn as well as on field corn and on hybrids as well as on open pollenated. Evidence of its development came during late July and during August was found to be quite general. Since the disease has been of relatively small importance in this State in past years no control measures have been invoked although plowing under all corn refuse in the fall should prove of great benefit since that practice will prevent the carrying over of the fungus spores to the next season's crop. With normal weather conditions the following season the disease should not be of any serious consequence.

PIG, CALF CROPS TO HIT HIGHEST MARK

ON a national basis farmers have reported a record spring pig crop of 62 million head, and plan a 43 million fall crop. The calf crop, estimated at 32 million, also sets a record. Slaughter of cattle and calves has been considerably larger to date this year than last. Total meat supply should be the largest on record.

TEST 44,969 CATTLE FOR BANG'S DISEASE

A TOTAL of 44,969 cattle from 3,690 herds were tested during the month of August under supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to reports to Secretary John H. Light. Of that number 1,321 cattle in 535 herds were found to be affected by the disease, placing the herd infection at 14.4 percent and the cattle infection at 2.9 percent. State indemnities paid during the month totaled $26,702 and Federal indemnities paid during that period amounted to $32,150.

The latest report, Secretary Light stated, shows that there are in the State 6,492 herds comprising 135,844 cattle certified as being free of the disease, certification being procured after the herd would show negative on two successive tests within one year; 3,497 herds comprising 70,438 cattle showing negative tests but not qualified to be certified, and 209 herds comprising 4,702 cattle in which infection exists. Those cattle in addition to the 63,902 herds comprising 434,845 cattle in the area testing program, bring a total of 74,109 herds comprising 645,845 cattle under the supervision of the Department in the Bang disease control program.

FARMER PRICE INDEX RISES FIVE POINTS

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products increased five points during the month from July 15 to August 15, according to surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The index of all farm products, figured from the 1910-1914 base of 100, is placed at 165 compared with 160 on July 15 and 140 on August 15 last year. Milk and eggs were the most important contributing factors to the advance, both of which showed greater than normal increases in the seasonal upward trend. The indicated milk price for August 15 is placed at $2.90 per hundredweight, advancing from $2.75 a month earlier and from $2.45 on August 15 last year. Eggs advanced from .332 cents a month earlier to .372 cents on August 15. The price on the comparable date in 1941 was 32 cents.

The index for grains on August 15 was 114, the same as a month earlier, but advanced from 103 a year previously; fruits 130, showing a decrease from 149 on July 15, but advanced from 112 a year previously; meat animals, 185, an increase of three points during the month and advanced from 146 a year previously; dairy products, 184, advanced from 178 a month earlier and from 159 on August 15 last year, and chickens and eggs, 150 advanced from 137 a month earlier and from 130 a year previously.

The index of prices which farmers pay for the things they need is placed at 152, the same as the figure for July 15, but advanced from 133 a year earlier. The farmers' purchasing power is placed at 109 compared with 105 both a month earlier and on August 15, 1941.

Following are the prices with comparisons received by Pennsylvania farmers:

	Aug. 15 1941	July 15 1942	Aug. 15 1942
Wheat..... Bu.	$ .97	$1.04	$1.04
Corn..... Bu.	.83	.93	.95
Oats..... Bu.	.42	.57	.54
Barley..... Bu.	.59	.66	.64
Rye..... Bu.	.67	.76	.76
Buckwheat.... Bu.	.61	.81	.81
Potatoes..... Bu.	.85	1.25	1.20
Apples..... Bu.	.90	1.20	1.05
Hay..... Ton	10.00	11.90	11.10
Hogs..... Cwt.	11.00	14.00	14.30
Beef Cattle... Cwt.	9.30	11.50	11.70
Veal Calves... Cwt.	11.40	14.10	14.50
Sheep..... Cwt.	3.80	5.00	5.00
Lambs..... Cwt.	9.80	12.50	12.30
Milk Cows.... Head	88.00	109.00	113.00
Horses..... Head	109.00	121.00	122.00
Mules..... Head	118.00	131.00	131.00
Chickens..... Lb.	.193	.214	.220
Turkeys..... Lb.	.230	.265	.250
Milk, retail.... Qt.	.117	.130	.130
Butter..... Lb.	.35	.38	.40
Butterfat..... Lb.	.35	.38	.40
Wool..... Lb.	.40	.44	.45

Expect Larger Acreages

Food crop acreages throughout the country are expected to be larger this year than last, notably vegetables for both fresh market and processing. Little information is available as to "Victory Garden" production, but government specialists believe that this production will have little adverse effect upon the commercial demand for fresh vegetables.

WHEAT PRODUCTION HITS 5th LOW POINT FLY IS BIG FACTOR

PRODUCTION of wheat in Pennsylvania this year will drop to the lowest figure since 1934 according to latest indications recorded by the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced. These indications place the expected total yield at 15,466,000 bushels which compares with the production of 16,712,000 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 19,229,000 bushels.

Contributing to the lower production this year was the reduction in wheat acreage to 814,000 acres from 857,000 acres last year and the previous 10-year average of 971,000 acres. Latest indications place the yield per acre for the 1942 crop at 19 bushels compared with 19.5 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 19.7 bushels.

The cut in yield has been caused by unfavorable weather conditions and to a greater extent by widespread and disastrous infestations of the Hessian fly, particularly in the central and south central sections of the State. Some fields in that area showed a total loss as a result of that infestation. This loss was sufficiently great to lower the production indicated on July 1 from 17,094,000 bushels to the low figure now recorded.

On the basis of the latest survey, 1942 will be registered as the fifth lowest producing year in this State since 1866. It is of interest, Secretary Light stated to note that the second lowest recorded production was in 1932 when the total yield was 13,755,000 bushels and it was also in that year, 10 years ago, that the Hessian fly and weather conditions played havoc with the crop, causing the exceedingly low production. The fly infestation, then as in this year, leveled its greatest ruin in the central and south central sections.

The other low years were 1934, 15,334,000 bushels; 1928, 14,384,000 bushels, in each of these years production figures being for winter wheat, and 1866, 13,585,000 bushels for all wheat. Spring wheat production, it is estimated, did not account for more than approximately 150,000 bushels.

DECREASE INDICATED IN LETTUCE, ONIONS

PRODUCTION below that of last year is expected in this State in both lettuce and onions, but a large increase is expected in tomatoes produced for market, according to reports to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. Lettuce production in Pennsylvania is estimated to be 53,000 western crates of four to six dozen of 75 pounds compared with 56,000 crates harvested last year and the previous 10-year average of 45,000 crates.

This year's onion production is estimated to be 56,000 sacks of 100 pounds each compared with 58,000 sacks harvested last year and the previous 10-year average of 57,000 sacks. On a country-wide basis a production 14 percent greater than last year and 18 percent above the previous 10-year average is indicated from the increase of 15 percent in acreage over that of last year.

Estimates place the tomato crop for market at 567,000 bushels of 53 pounds compared with 528,000 bushels harvested last year and the previous 10-year average production of 287,000 bushels. Both larger acreages and expected higher yields account for the indicated increase in production.

CARROT ACREAGE IS GREATLY INCREASED

IF only average yields are procured, carrot production in Pennsylvania this year will be greatly boosted over previous years, according to reports to Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. Preliminary estimates indicate that 700 acres have been planted to the crop which is 13 percent more than the 620 acres harvested last year. The previous 10-year average is 460 acres.

Indications point to a 12 percent increase over 1941 of the acreage planted in the late states, which besides Pennsylvania include Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

TIGHT BINDING TEXT CUT OFF

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COMPILE PRINCIPLES FOR BANG'S DISEASE PROGRAM OF CONTROL

THE Bureau of Animal Industry has issued a set of principles which are essential in the control of Bang disease among cattle with the plea that they be rigidly followed to aid in the advancement of the program being promoted for the control of that disease and the reduction of the great losses it causes to the dairy farmer.

The compilation follows:

Bang disease free herds are properly the goal of all our efforts. These may be obtained directly through the practice of fundamental principles contained in the original Pennsylvania Plan which are involved in all cases and are the basis for the Federal-State Cooperative Plan of Bang disease elimination and control. The success in obtaining a clean herd depends directly and is in proportion to the facilities and thoroughness in the practical application of those principles.

Calfhood vaccination has been recognized and recommended by the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, American Veterinary Medical Association and the United States Livestock Sanitary Association as an adjunct or aid to other methods of controlling Bang disease infection in this country. It, however, has all too frequently been employed as a substitute for other control methods. In keeping with our present knowledge calfhood vaccination should be considered as a means to an end, and should be used only to assist other approved methods of control.

Thirty-nine states including Pennsylvania have adopted methods of calfhood vaccination, centered around the following three methods:

(a) Test and immediate elimination of positive reactors with indemnities.

(b) Test and immediate elimination of positive reactors with calfhood vaccination and indemnities.

(c) Test and gradual elimination of positive reactors with calfhood vaccination and without indemnities. (Plan not permitted in Modified Accredited Areas.)

Repeated blood tests and elimination of reactors may never result in the elimination of the disease unless supplemented by proper herd management and sanitation. The cardinal principle in connection with herd management is the suppression of exposure to infection, and this principle is suggested as essential in all methods of control.

ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES

A. *Blood Test*—Federal-State supervision
1. Elimination of reactors—properly isolated until disposed of.

B. *Herd Management*—(Suppression of exposure to infection)
1. Maternity stalls or barn—properly separated from remainder of herd.
2. Isolation facilities for cows at the calving period and for those not negative to test.
3. Cows should remain in isolation after calving until negative to blood test not within two to three weeks of calving.
4. Additions to herd should originate in Bang Disease Free Accredited Herds or negative herds under Federal-State supervision.
5. Calves suckling reactor cows should not be placed with susceptible cattle for at least one month following separation.
6. Guard against infection gaining entrance to your herd.
7. Close, daily observation of each animal.

C. *Sanitation and Disinfection*
1. Keep stable and yard clean.
2. Completely and properly dispose of all infectious sources and materials.
3. Disinfect premises frequently and thoroughly, especially isolation quarters.
4. Prevent cows having access to manure yards where infection might be present.
5. Avoid contamination of feed and water.

Farm Population

Total farm population of Pennsylvania, according to the latest census, is 912,232, which compares with a population in 1930 of 975,082. Of this total, 846,240 people live on farms in the rural areas and 10,454 people live on farms in the urban sections.

PENNA. IS LEADER IN GROWING OF PLANTS

IN addition to the high position held by Pennsylvania in various divisions of agriculture and fruit and vegetable growing, this State is also classed among the leaders in the horticultural industry and in the production of vegetable and flower plants, it is pointed out by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. In reviewing the extent of these operations Secretary John H. Light stated that Pennsylvania ranks first or a close second among the states in the production of vegetables and flowers in green houses, annual sales of these products exceeding 12 million dollars.

Another branch of the horticultural industry which has reached a high rank in this State is that of ornamental and flowering plants. Southeastern Pennsylvania, it is pointed out, has for a long time been recognized as one of America's chief horticulture centers. But nurseries and greenhouses engaged in this enterprise are scattered throughout the State and represent an investment of at least 10 million dollars and do an annual business of approximately five million dollars. The nursery business alone comprises about 1,200 establishments with 9,000 acres devoted to the production of ornamental and fruit stock which are shipped to every state in this country and previous to the war were shipped to many foreign countries.

SURVEY YIELDS OF PA. VEGETABLE CROPS

PENNSYLVANIA beet growers expect a production of 294,000 bushels of late-crop beets this season compared with 234,000 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 148,000 bushels according to the latest survey of the Federal-State Crop Report issued by the Department of Agriculture. An excellent yield per acre is in prospect. Some fields of young beets are showing black root due to wet weather. Marketing of topped beets in the State is increasing. There are 700 acres for harvest this year compared with 600 acres last year and the 10-year average of 366 acres.

Conditions in most country-wide areas were favorable to the cabbage crop during August, and latest indicated yields of Domestic type late cabbage averaged somewhat higher than a month earlier. The indicated production of 434,400 tons is about 26,000 tons higher than a month ago but is still about four percent below the 1941 harvest. The lower condition of the domestic cabbage crop in Pennsylvania due to wet weather dropped production prospects about six percent since August 1. Much of the crop has moved to market and some of that remaining may not be harvested due to the large size of heads, the scarcity of labor or poor market conditions. Production for this State is placed at 52,700 tons compared with 50,200 tons last year and the 1931-40 average of 40,200 tons.

Production of Danish type cabbage this season is indicated to be 377,000 tons. Last season 312,000 tons were harvested and the 1931-40 average is 290,500 tons. Yields per acre in all producing States are indicated to be above both last year and average.

In Pennsylvania the Danish crop is making fast growth and indicated yield at this time is a half a ton above the nine tons per acre average yield for last year's crop. The 10-year average per acre is eight tons. The 3,300 acres planted this year equals the 1941 acreage. The 10-year average acreage is 2,840 acres.

Celery production in Pennsylvania is indicated to be 243,000, two-third size crates of 90 pounds each compared with the relatively low production of 210,000 crates last year and the 10-year average of 288,000 crates. The 900 acres for harvest this year is a seven percent increase over last year's 840 acres but is 17 percent lower than the 10-year average acreage of 1,090 acres.

GRAPE HARVEST WILL BE MUCH ADVANCED

THERE has been no reduction in previous indications which placed the Pennsylvania grape crop production at 19,800 tons, the crop in the Erie belt continuing in excellent condition, according to latest surveys reported to the Department of Agriculture. Black rot is prevalent in the vineyards but has not become a serious factor. Harvesting has begun much earlier than usual.

URGE MEASURES TO BATTLE CORN BORER BE FULLY FOLLOWED

THAT all farmers, particularly in infested areas, make plans to follow the program this Fall for the control of the corn borer is emphatically urged by the Department of Agriculture. That program calls for the destruction of all refuse on which the borer exists and the plowing under during the Fall of all corn stubbles and constitutes the only effective means of control of the destructive pest.

The extent of prevalence of the borer this year has not yet been determined, but the double brooded form, which has been confined to the Eastern section of the State, was found this Summer for the first time in Lebanon County, which is the most westerly section in which it has existed in Pennsylvania. This discovery aroused fears of the possibility of that form of borer extending its operations to add to the seriousness of its depredations.

It is pointed out by Secretary Light that a tremendous increase of infestation was found last year in 10 of the 11 counties surveyed by specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, some fields in Delaware County showing that 100 percent of the stalks were infested while in other counties the infestation was double that of a year previously. In a number of cases the pest has shown consistent increase since the first surveys made in those counties eight years ago, which is pointed to as a definite indication of the necessity for control measures if it is to be subdued.

In emphasizing the need for farmers to follow the suggested methods of control, Secretary Light declared this to be essential to reduce individual losses as well as to prevent the spread of the pest, which if sufficiently widespread can cause failure of the most important grain crop produced in this State.

The Bureau of Plant Industry has made plans for surveys this season which include operations in Erie, Crawford, Armstrong, Indiana, Westmoreland, Centre, Lebanon, Berks, Bucks, Montgomery, Lehigh and Northampton counties.

REDUCTION LISTED IN FOUR PA. CROPS

LATEST revised estimates of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by the Department of Agriculture show large decreases in the indicated production this year in this State of potatoes, tobacco, oats and barley.

The potato crop, hit by widespread infestation of blight as a result of wet weather, is now placed at 18,170,000 bushels, a reduction of 1,896,000 bushels from the production indicated a month previously. This figure places the yield at more than six million bushels below the average for the past 10 years.

The tobacco yield is now indicated to be 50,795,000 pounds, a reduction of 4,337,000 pounds from the indications a month earlier and about two million pounds less than the 1941 production when the acreage was about the same as this year, but approximately 15 million pounds above the 10-year average when the average acreage was about 7,000 acres less than this year.

Oats production is now placed at 27,156,000 bushels compared with indications of 29,346,000 bushels a month previously and about three million bushels below the 1941 production but still more than a million bushels above the 10-year average.

Indications are that the barley crop will be cut 4,023,000 bushels, which is nearly three million bushels below the indications of a month earlier but still about a half million bushels greater than the 1941 production and more than double the average production for the years from 1930 to 1939.

Wet weather, particularly during August was the important factor in causing the reductions. Harvesting of grains was delayed, blight on the potato crop became more widespread and rust developed on the tobacco.

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URGE TREATMENT OF LAWNS FOR FUTURE JAP BEETLE CONTROL

TREATMENT of lawns at this season for the destruction of Japanese beetle grubs is urged by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Presence of the grubs is indicated by brown patches appearing on lawns which ordinarily should continue in good condition. If upon examination numbers of small white grubs are found in the soil under those patches, the answer is that the Jap beetle is infesting the area. The grass is caused to die by the feeding by the grubs upon the roots.

The treatment suggested, which it is stated is definitely effective is the application of arsenate of lead which soaks into the soil, causing death to the grubs, since they consume certain amounts of earth while feeding upon the grass roots.

The rate of application is five to ten pounds of arsenate of lead powder to each 1,000 square feet of lawn surface. The larger amount should prove effective for at least five years. Of the various methods of applying the poison, perhaps the simplest is to thoroughly mix it with 5 times its volume of slightly moist soil or sand, and then broadcast the mixture by hand. It is well to follow a fixed procedure in making the application. Measure the area to be treated, and after the arsenate of lead is carefully weighed and mixed with the proper amount of sand or soil, mark off two or three small areas each as 100 square feet and try to distribute the right amount of the arsenate mixture on these small plots. A few trials will enable one to judge the proper rate of distribution. To insure even distribution, which is very important, a given quantity of the material may be equally divided and broadcast separately one portion crosswise of the other. The garden hose should be used until no trace of the white lead remains on the surface. The watering will also insure the poison reaching the position in the soil where the grubs are feeding and thus become more quickly effective.

The poison may also be added to water at the rate of one pound to a gallon in a sprinkling can, and applied. In either case a few trials on a small area where the proper amount, that is, one half gallon per 100 square feet, if the five pound rate is used or one gallon if the 10 pound rate is applied should precede general distribution. This treatment of lawns may be applied any time of year when the soil is not frozen, but late summer through early fall, is best because the grubs are then small and more easily killed than at any other time.

2,330 DOGS KILLED IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

DOG law violations caused the lowering of the canine population in this State during the month of August by 2,330, that number of stray and uncontrolled dogs having been killed by police officers, according to reports of the Dog Law Enforcement Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to Secretary John H. Light. It was also reported that during that period damage caused by dogs to livestock and poultry cost the State $4,835, that amount having been paid in settlement of 173 damage claims. Settlement between claimants and dog owners for damages amounted to an additional $560.

RIR PEN LEADER IN EGG LAYING TEST

AT the end of the fiftieth week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test production to that time was shown to be 60.11 percent, a total of 232,492 eggs having been produced. The average number of eggs per bird in the test was 210.40 and the average egg weight was 24.70 ounces per dozen.

The leading pen to that time was one of Rhode Island Reds which produced a total of 3,766 eggs and was credited with 3612.95 points.

EACH FARM WOULD HAVE RECEIVED $19

FEDERAL Government subsidy payments to Pennsylvania farmers show an annual average of $3,283,000 for the years from 1933 to 1941 inclusive, or an average of $19 per farm had all the farms in the State participated in the subsidy programs.

MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF MEATS INSPECTED

A TOTAL of 3,070,112 pounds of meat and meat products and 1,443,232 pounds of animal organs to be used in the manufacture of food products, were examined during the month of August under direction of the Meat Hygiene Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced. Of the former, 2,583 pounds were condemned and of the latter 89,304 pounds were discarded. Ant-mortem and post-mortem examinations were also made of 29,768 animals and carcasses and 71 carcasses were condemned. Sanitation examinations were made of 594 meat producing establishments.

PEACH CROP IS ONLY SLIGHTLY BELOW '41

IN spite of unfavorable weather conditions and labor shortages in some areas during the harvesting season, the Pennsylvania peach crop this year is now estimated at only 22,000 bushels below the production of last year, being placed, according to latest surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture at 1,822,000 bushels. This is greatly in excess of the previous 10-year average production which is 1,656,000 bushels.

The cherry crop, according to latest indications is 500 tons below last year's production of 9,800 tons, but is far in excess of the previous 10-year average of 7,704 tons.

It is indicated that the pear crop this year will exceed last year's production of 350,000 bushels by 129,000 bushels, the crop last year being low as a result of frosts and dry weather in some areas. The higher production this year, however, is still considerably below the 10-year average of 609,000 bushels.

CANNING PEA CROP BELOW EXPECTATION

UNFAVORABLE weather conditions during the growing and harvesting seasons brought widespread disappointment to the Pennsylvania crop of green peas for processing, according to the latest revised production surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light. Acreage was greatly increased this year, the number of acres planted to the crop being placed at 14,300 as compared with 10,800 acres last year and the previous 10-year average of 4,580 acres, but production is more than 1,000 tons below that of last year as a result of the heavy drop in yield. Total production is placed at 10,510 tons compared with 11,880 tons in 1941 and an average production of 4,610 tons for the previous 10-year period. Yield per acre slumped from an average of 2,200 tons last year and the previous 10-year average of 1,900 tons to 1,470 tons this year.

In addition to the weather conditions being unfavorable for the development of the crop, wet fields at harvesting time prevented picking, causing loss of peas in the fields.

6,400 FARMS USING MILKING MACHINES

A SURVEY just completed by the Department of Agriculture placed the number of milking machines on farms of this State at approximately 6,400, Secretary John H. Light has announced. The estimate is based upon tabulations of herds comprising 11 or more cows, of which it is estimated there are approximately 22,000 in this State. It is generally held that machines are not used to a wide extent on farms with smaller herds.

The estimated number of machines now in use compares with the estimate of 4,187 on the farms in this State in 1927, when the last previous survey was made. It is reported that the demand for machines has been particularly heavy this year, reflecting the farm labor situation as a result of the war.

Rural Population

According to latest figures the rural population of Pennsylvania is 3,097,839 of whom 846,240 people live on farms. There are also 10,454 persons living on farms in the urban sections.

WARNS THAT LABOR SHORTAGE MAY BRING SERIOUS SITUATIONS

A CRITICAL farm labor shortage struck the harvesting of tomatoes and apples, according to reports to the State Department of Agriculture, with a result that vast quantities of tomatoes were lost and deep concern is being felt about the apple crop. It is estimated that tomato losses through lack of pickers reached 15 to 20 percent of the crop. In addition to that loss it is expected that production of canned tomatoes of which great increases were urged by the Federal Government, will be still more reduced as a result of some of the smaller canneries selling their contracted acreage to larger canneries to be used for processing. This action, it is reported, is taken as a result of the establishment of ceiling prices on canned goods after the canneries had agreed to pay higher prices to the growers, which it is claimed would require them to operate at a loss.

The apple harvest has been badly hampered by the shortage of pickers, in some instances orchards reporting shortages running as high as 80 percent. The crop is indicated to be of bumper proportions, estimates placing it at more than 10 million bushels, but fear is now held that a considerable portion of it may be lost. In some areas the schools are cooperating through the release of older pupils to engage in picking, but in many areas it is claimed that not much assistance is being received from that source. The situation, it is reported is aggravated by the fact that many of the pickers are inexperienced.

In reviewing the widespread reports Secretary Light declared that "unless more definite plans than those yet established are made through which the real importance of agriculture is given full recognition in the war effort, this country and the other nations to which it has taken the responsibility of supplying food, will face serious situations. Food shortages must result if there is no labor to produce food and up to the present time little recognition seems to have been given that fact both as regards the draft and the exodus from the farms to industry where higher and still higher wages are the rule."

HEAVY PRODUCTION OF SNAP BEANS, CORN

ACCORDING to the latest reports to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture, snap bean production in Pennsylvania this year will show an increase of nearly 100 percent over that of 1941. The indicated production is 7,100 tons compared with 3,700 tons last year and 3,200 tons as the average for the previous 10 years.

This great increase is due largely to the vastly expanded acreage planted to the crop, which is double that of the 10-year period from 1931 to 1940. The acreage this year is 4,200 acres and last year 3,060 acres were devoted to the crop. Indications also point to an increased yield over previous years, it being placed this year at 1.7 tons per acre compared with 1.2 tons last year and an average of 1.4 tons for the previous 10 years.

Sweet corn production is also indicating an increased production of 6,400 tons over that of last year, it being placed by latest surveys at 37,700 tons, compared with 30,600 tons in 1941, both years showing a vast jump over the previous 10-year average production of 14,700 tons. Increased acreage planted to the crop this year is the major factor in the greater production, 15,400 acres having been planted this year compared with 13,300 acres harvested last year and the previous 10-year average of 7,430 acres. Indications are also for an increased yield, the figure being placed at 2.4 tons per acre compared with 2.3 tons per acre last year and the previous 10-year average of 1.9 tons.

INVESTMENT HIGHER IN PA. AGRICULTURE

THE total investment in Pennsylvania agriculture in 1941 was placed at $1,300,000,000 which is an increase of approximately $200,000,000 over the investment in 1933, according to compilations of the Department of Agriculture.

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REGISTER NEW HIGH IN MILK PRODUCTION PRICES HOLD STEADY

MILK production per cow in Pennsylvania on September 1 averaged 18.3 pounds which was the highest figure for that date on record, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Survey released by the Department of Agriculture. Seasonal decline in production per cow from August to September was much less than usual, the report states, due in large part to the excellent condition of pastures. Dairymen reported that at the beginning of the month six percent more feed was obtained from pastures than a year earlier.

Fluid milk markets have held steady during August and increased prices for butter, cheese and powdered milk have raised prices paid to producers for milk sold in surplus classifications. Greater demand for milk is also causing a higher percentage to be sold in Class I. The Class I buying price at New York City was increased 20 cents per hundred as both butter and dried skim milk prices were higher in August than July. Government purchases of dairy products still constitute an important feature of the dairy product markets, although, except in dry skim milk, the quantities taken currently have been substantially reduced compared with previous recent periods.

The tone of eastern sweet cream markets was irregular during August, opening fairly firm, changing to an easy position toward the middle of the month, and firming again at the close. Weather was the principal influence accounting for these changes. Production in eastern fluid milk areas which are a source of sweet cream has levelled off, which will tend to reduce surplus milk going into cream, as well as the quantities which have been moving into manufacturing outlets. Wholesale prices of sweet cream advanced about $1.00 per can in the New York market on August 1 as a result of 15c per hundredweight increase in the price of Class II A milk. Philadelphia prices have continued to follow the upward trend which began in July, and quotations the second week of September were $20.00 to $20.50 per can on cream meeting all approval requirements, and $19.75 to $20.00 on that which has Pennsylvania approval only. These prices average about 75c per can higher than closing July prices.

Present indications point to somewhat larger supplies of locally produced feed in the North Atlantic States in 1942-43 than in 1941-42 and materially larger supplies of hay. Shipments of feed from the Corn Belt will depend to some extent on the transportation situation. Production per cow during the remainder of 1942 may be about the same as during the second half of 1941 when production was relatively high. Receipts of milk at the three principal northeastern markets were four percent larger than a year earlier in June and July.

At present there are some factors in the milk cow situation that may tend to hold slaughter of milk cows at fairly high levels. Prices of cull cows are unusually good. Dairymen are thus encouraged to cull cows that become unprofitable. In some areas the lack of an adequate supply of skilled farm labor has put a stumbling block in the way of expanding operations on large commercial dairy farms.

Milk production on United States farms continued at record levels, showing only about the usual seasonal decline during August. With milk cow numbers about three and one-half percent greater than a year ago and with production per cow favorably influenced by remarkably good late summer pastures, total milk production continued about five percent higher than at the same season in 1941. For August this year production on farms is estimated at 10.8 billion pounds compared with 10.3 billion pounds in August last year. The daily production of 2.59 pounds per capita was nearly 13 percent greater than average for the month in the 1936-40 period. In all major groups of States milk production per cow on September 1 was nine percent or more above the 1931-40 average and was at, or near, record high levels for the date.

Bang Disease Testing

Testing of cattle for Bang disease was first started in Pennsylvania in 1920 under the direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the State Department of Agriculture.

LOAD OF CABBAGE IS NEARLY AT POINT OF DIMINISHING RETURNS

The following letter was received from a farmer by the Department of Agriculture: "I took a load of domestic cabbage to Philadelphia consisting of 165 fifty-pound bags. It was sold on Dock Street at 25 cents per bag. The bag cost 10 cents. The commission was two and one-half cents. The hauling was 10 cents per bag. This totals twenty-two and one-half cents. So I had a profit of two and one-half cents a bag for growing the cabbage.

"How do you think I shall live and buy War Stamps?"

WEATHER CAUSES BIG CUT IN PRODUCTION OF HONEY IN PENNA.

ALTHOUGH the number of colonies of bees in Pennsylvania this year shows an increase of 15 per cent over the number last year, preliminary estimates place the 1942 crop of honey at a third less than the production in 1941 due to generally unfavorable weather conditions, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey issued by the Department of Agriculture.

The number of colonies is placed at 205,000 compared with 172,000 colonies last year, but the honey production per colony is indicated to be only 22 pounds compared with an average of 40 pounds in 1941. Total production last year was 7,120,000 pounds compared with the indicated production for this year of 4,510,000 pounds. On August 20, according to the report, there were 1,443,000 pounds of honey on hand for sale.

Cool, cloudy weather and frequent rains made bees rather inactive and nectaries were not well filled. Production of clover, locust and basswood honey was light. An unusual amount of swarming occurred during the forepart of August which is late for swarming activities.

The flow of late honey, mostly buckwheat has been good and because of late swarming it is expected that the Fall flow will improve.

Wholesale prices reported as being received by producers in August for extracted honey in large cans, kegs and barrels, averaged 11.4 cents per pound, compared with an average seasonal price of 6.5 cents received during 1941. Prevailing August price this year was 11.8 cents in Pennsylvania. Wholesale prices to producers for comb honey in one pound sections averaged 16.5 cents per pound for the United States, compared with the average season's price in 1941 of 13.8 cents. The August price this year was 16.4 cents in Pennsylvania.

WORLD'S RECORD IS MADE AT PENNA. TEST

A PEN of Rhode Island Reds at the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test conducted by the Department of Agriculture, established a new world record for pullets of that breed during the test year just closed. The record production for the 51 week period by the pen of 13 birds, which is the official number for egg laying tests, was 3,836 eggs or an average of 295 eggs per bird for the 357 days. The pen was credited with 4,089.70 points upon which the record was based, since the weight of the eggs is the determining factor. All eggs produced averaged above the required weight of 24 ounces per dozen. The record-breaking pen was owned by Crooks Farms, North Brookfield, Mass.

The previous world record was made last year at Storr's Egg Laying Test in Connecticut on a production of 3,770 eggs which received a credit of 4,021.20 points. The highest producing bird in this year's record pen was credited wth 336 eggs and 359.35 points. The next high producer was credited with 331 eggs but beat the first bird in the number of points, being credited with 361.50.

The pen also holds the distinction of leading all breeds this year in production in all the 16 official egg laying tests conducted throughout the country.

EGG PRODUCTION IS UNUSUALLY HEAVY IN PA. FOR THIS SEASON

EGG production in Pennsylvania during August was six percent above August, 1941, due to the larger laying flocks and favorable rate of lay per layer, the report of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service released by the Department of Agriculture shows. Production has shown about the usual seasonal decline during August but has been unusually heavy for this season of the year, according to the survey. Housing of pullets appears to be slightly later this year than last year, but preliminary information suggests that there will be about five percent more pullets than last year to be housed. Laying flocks this Winter will be larger than last Winter, assuming that usual culling practices are followed and the present high consumer demand for eggs continues. Average prices received by farmers in the State for eggs, as is usual at this season of the year, advanced four and one-half cents per dozen during August. Feed prices have held rather steady during the past month but are 14 percent above last August.

Production during the month is placed at 165 million eggs compared with production of 191 million eggs during July and 156 million eggs during August, 1941. The number of layers is placed at 12,282,000 compared with 12,900,000 in July and 11,350,000 in August, 1941. The monthly number of eggs per layer was 13.5 compared with 14.8 a month earlier and 13.7 in August a year ago.

August egg markets have been firm, and prices generally have advanced at all points. This has been a seasonal trend, but has been fully supported this year by an active buying interest, which has absorbed current production, and drawn more or less heavily on storage reserves.

On September 1, storage stocks of eggs totaled 6,759,000 cases, representing an increase over September 1, 1941 of 628,000 cases. A sizable portion of the eggs remaining in storage are ear-marked for drying in order to fill Government contracts during the remainder of the year. Aside from this, total stocks of shell eggs the past two months are not excessive in the light of recent years' reserves.

Further strength developed in live poultry markets during August, and prices were mostly higher than a month ago. Such changes reflect a generally good buying demand. Contributing to this, perhaps, are the shortages of competing meats reported in some places. Price increases are greatest on broilers, which are 10 to 14 cents higher than a year ago. Increases over last year on the heavier classes are only about four to six cents, varying in different markets.

With supplies of truck tires, replacement parts, and new equipment limited because of war conditions, farmers and the public may be adversely affected if they are deprived of long-distance motor-truck service for certain farm products. Trucking of farm products over long distances has become so firmly entrenched in the Nation's economic system that diminution of this service without providing a substitute may create serious problems. The importance of trucking facilities in egg marketing is brought out by the fact that 47 percent of all eggs on the Philadelphia market arrive by truck and over 90 percent of the eggs of Pennsylvania origin on this market are trucked in. Similar situations prevail on all the large Eastern markets.

TOMATO PRODUCTION IS CUT BY WEATHER

HEAVY rains during August severely damaged the tomato crop in the eastern and southeastern sections of this State, lowering the average yield per acre of market tomatoes to an estimated 200 bushel average yield, according to the latest survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by the Department of Agriculture. In spite of the lowered estimate, however, total production, now placed at 540,000 bushels is still in excess of the 528,000 bushels produced last year and nearly double that of the previous 10-year average of 287,000 bushels. The increase over last year is due to a 13 percent increase in acreage, 2,700 acres being devoted to the crop this year compared with 2,400 acres in 1941 and 1,510 acres as the previous 10-year average.

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STEER FEEDING ON DECLINE IN PENNA. DAIRYING INCREASES

ALTHOUGH the number of stockers and feeders sold at the Lancaster Livestock Yards to farmers who feed cattle for meat production showed a large increase during the first six months of this year over the similar period in 1941, steer feeding has registered a steady decline in this State since 1938, Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture has announced. The total stocker and feeder receipts for the period this year was 23,311 compared with a total of 14,646 during that period last year. However, this situation can be reversed in view of the fact that normally 80 percent of the annual purchases are made during the last six months of the year.

However, Secretary Light declared, "the figures for the past four years are significant since they indicate a general trend away from cattle feeding and an expansion of the dairy division of farming in this State. This is seen in the fact that in spite of the decreased number of feeders and stockers bought by farmers who feed cattle for meat production, the number of cattle on Pennsylvania farms increased by 60,000 from January 1, 1939 to January 1 this year, and that increase is due entirely to the greater number of dairy cattle, which began registering increases in 1937."

Secretary Light points out that steers on farms in this State declined from 130,000 on January 1, 1938 to 90,000 on January 1, 1942 and receipts of stockers and feeders from out-of-state markets declined from 129,000 in 1937 to 69,000 in 1941; receipts at the Lancaster yards declined during that period from 109,000 to 53,000 and cattle shipped into Pennsylvania on disease-free certificates declined from 175,000 in 1937 to 93,000 in 1941. During the same period cattle and calves handled at the Lancaster yards declined from 324,000 to 290,000.

On the other hand stated Secretary Light, "receipts of Pennsylvania cattle and calves at the various livestock markets increased from 176,000 in 1936 to 256,000 in 1941 showing a tendency on the part of the farmer to devote his efforts to dairying rather than the raising of calves and cattle for the meat market."

"During the first six months," continued Secretary Light, "Pennsylvania cattle feeders showed a willingness to invest in feeder cattle in anticipation of better future market prices in spite of the unfavorable price relationship between prices of stockers and feeders and high grade steers. With the placing of ceiling prices by the Government, however, this tendency may not continue since the price of the finished cattle has upon occasion been less than the price paid for the feeders. As a result of this situation, reports show that cattle feeders are marketing their steers before they reach the full weight stage, which must necessarily cause a reduction in the meat supply."

INCREASE IN SHEEP WOOL PRODUCTION UP

THE quantity of wool shorn or to be shorn this year in Pennsylvania is estimated at 2,595,000 pounds, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey. This is considerably above last year's production of 2,398,000 but shows a heavy decrease from the 3,042,000 pounds which is the average for the years from 1931 to 1940. The weight per fleece is estimated to be 7.7 pounds compared with 7.4 pounds in 1941 and the previous 10-year average of 7.5 pounds.

The number of sheep shorn or to be shorn register an increase from 324,000 last year to 337,000 this year, but are considerably below the average number of 406,000 for the previous 10 years.

The estimated production for the country as a whole is placed at 392,346,000 pounds which is the largest shorn wool production on record, being about one-half of one percent larger than the 1941 production, the previous record. The increase is accredited to the larger number of sheep shorn, that number being placed at 49,092,000 with an average weight of wool per head of 7.99 pounds compared with 48,130,000 in 1941 with an average weight per fleece of 8.11 pounds.

PLANNING TO BATTLE MOTH FROM PLANE

INTENSIFICATION of the effort for the control and the ultimate possible eradication of the gypsy moth in Pennsylvania is being urged by Secretary John H. Light. The control program is carried on jointly by the Federal Bureau of Entomology and the State Department of Agriculture and up to the present time it has been successful in keeping the moth confined to the area in which it was first found in this State which comprises about 600 square miles in eight townships in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties.

The program consists of intensive scouting work by crews numbering between 200 and 300 men who traverse designated sections to find the grub which is destroyed, and of spraying the infested areas during May and June when the moth, in the worm stage, feeds upon the leaves of trees. The scouting and spraying operations are exceedingly difficult by reason of the infected area being mostly that of mountainous forest.

For some time past Secretary Light has been urging that Congress make greater appropriations of Federal funds for fighting the pest, insisting that the battle against the moth is not purely a state responsibility in that should it break from the infested area to which it has so far been confined by the present program, it could soon become a country-wide menace and the cause of great destruction, which is now the case in some of the New England states.

An experiment was recently conducted in the infested area which attempted to develop the possibilities of spraying the section from an airplane. During that experiment the plane covered an area comprising probably 100 acres in the mountains at the Nesbit Dam near Wilkes-Barre. The spraying material was released from the plane as it was driven over the forest section and the material settled down upon the trees.

Specialists who witnessed the experiment were enthusiastic about the possibilities and are making efforts to use that plan to at least some extent during the spraying season next Spring. Under that method it is believed that most of the infested section can be sprayed each season as compared with the present system requiring about three years to cover the entire area.

PRICE INDEX IS UP FIVE POINTS IN MO.

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for the principal agricultural products increased five points during the month which ended September 15, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting compilation issued by the Department of Agriculture. Higher prices were received in mid-September than a month earlier for grains, fruits, dairy and poultry products and meat animals by groups.

The index of prices received is 168 percent of the August, 1909-July, 1914 base period. This was 24 points higher than a year previously. The index of prices paid, interest and taxes remained at 152 as on August 15. As a result, the ratio of prices received to prices paid, interest and taxes was 111, four points higher than in August and seven points higher than a year earlier. Compared with mid-August, the index of chicken and egg prices was up 13 points to 163; dairy products up five points to 185; grains up four points to 118, and fruits, at 136, up six points. The meat animal index was up one point from a month earlier to 186 of the pre-World War I level. Prices of all important products are above those prevailing in September, 1941.

Prices with comparisons follow:

		Sept. 15 1941	Aug. 15 1942	Sept. 15 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$1.00	$1.04	$1.10
Corn	Bu.	.86	.95	.96
Oats	Bu.	.45	.54	.53
Barley	Bu.	.66	.64	.70
Rye	Bu.	.72	.76	.78
Buckwheat	Bu.	.63	.81	.76
Potatoes	Bu.	.80	1.20	1.15
Apples	Bu.	.85	1.05	1.10
Hay	Ton	10.20	11.10	11.50
Hogs	Cwt.	11.50	14.30	14.20
Beef cattle	Cwt.	9.30	11.70	11.70
Veal calves	Cwt.	12.20	14.50	14.90
Sheep	Cwt.	4.05	5.00	5.00
Lambs	Cwt.	10.10	12.30	12.50
Milk cows	Head	92.00	113.00	113.00
Horses	Head	108.00	122.00	119.00
Mules	Head	114.00	131.00	130.00
Chickens	Lb.	.190	.220	.227
Turkeys	Lb.	.23	.250	.270
Milk, wholesale	Cwt.	2.55	2.80	2.90
Milk, retail	Qt.	.119	.130	.131
Butter	Lb.	.36	.40	.43
Butterfat	Lb.	.36	.40	.42
Eggs	Doz.	.355	.372	.413
Wool	Lb.	.41	.45	.45

SAYS ILLEGAL SALES OF BIOLOGICS CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS

A SERIOUS problem caused by the illegal sale of biologics to livestock and poultry owners of this State has been confronting the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary John H. Light has announced. It is declared that there are a number of biological firms throughout the country which manufacture and sell these products contrary to the laws of Pennsylvania, but action cannot be taken under the State law since the sales are made in interstate traffic and there are no Federal laws governing the sales.

Dealing with the situation, Secretary Light stated that: "The chief concern has been to control the illegal sale of various biologics in the State direct to laymen whose unwise administration of dangerous biological products in many instances causes the spreading of disease, rather than eradication or control.

"Fifteen biological firms are in agreement with the Bureau of Animal Industry for the sale and distribution of biologics in Pennsylvania. Permission is not granted to any of these firms to sell biologics other than to licensed veterinarians, excepting fowl pox vaccine which may be sold to poultrymen to vaccinate their own flocks, after first obtaining a permit from the Bureau for its use. Permission has not been granted to any biological firm to sell Brucella Abortus Antigen or Pullorum Antigen.

"Science has developed biologic agents which are useful in the prevention and treatment of certain of the contagious and infectious diseases. Proper use of these agents is an aid in the prevention and control of disease, and conversely these same agents, when employed improperly by untrained persons, may serve to establish new centers of disease and to aid materially in its perpetuation and dissemination.

"Both Federal and State laws or regulations prohibit the interstate movement of diseased animals or those that have recently been exposed, and the need of these is obvious. There is no fundamental difference between the shipment of a diseased animal into a community and the shipment of the living causative agent of the disease in a bottle.

"Many states and the Federal Government are paying indemnity on animals that react to tests for Bang disease. The unrestricted sale and use of Bang disease vaccines jeopardizes the program for the control and eradication of this costly disease. It may also be fraudulently employed to collect indemnities as diagnostic tests do not differentiate between an animal that reacts as a result of vaccination and one having active infection. It is unfair and unjust that Federal and State officials should be forced into a position where funds entrusted to them may be improperly or fraudulently used.

"The unrestricted sale and use of live viruses and vaccines results in unconscious sabotage of our livestock industry by our own people. The ease of vicious sabotage by foreign agents distributing the virus of foot and mouth disease, rinderpest, fowl pest and others through the unrestricted sales and use of biologics is obvious.

"Particularly in this time of trial and emergency, when the government is bending all effort to increase the livestock production of the Nation, it is imperative that Disease, Enemy No. 1 of the livestock industry, be overcome.

"It would seem that failure to recognize the importance of the proper use of potential disease-producing biologics could only be interpreted as a lack of sincerity in our desire and effort to increase the production of livestock and poultry in the interest of national defense."

MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF MEATS EXAMINED

DURING the month of September 3,146,809 pounds of meat and meat products and 1,670,006 pounds of animal organs prepared for food products, were examined under supervision of the Meat Hygiene Division. Of the former 2,200 pounds were condemned and 95,491 pounds of the latter were condemned.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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NEW MEXICO STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY 1942 Agricultural

SHARP REDUCTION IN CLOVER SEED CROP THIS YEAR IN PENNA.

PRODUCTION of red clover seed in the United States is expected to be the smallest in five years and about 29 percent below the 1941 crop, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture. It is estimated at 1,068,300 bushels or 64,098,000 pounds of thresher-run seed, compared with 1,510,200 bushels or 90,612,000 pounds in 1941. Decline in production from last year is attributed to a decrease of about 19 percent in acreage and about 12 percent in yield per acre. A larger production than last year is expected in only five producing States—Kansas, Kentucky, Iowa, Minnesota, and Oregon. Declines in production are most marked in Virginia, Michigan, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Idaho, and Wisconsin.

Pennsylvania acreage of clover seed harvested was sharply reduced this year. Rains delayed first cutting for hay and a considerable amount which would have gone into seed was pastured. Some localities report that this season was the first in many years in which no clover was harvested for seed. Compared with 31,000 acres last year, only 11,000 acres were harvested in the State this year. The average yield per acre is estimated at one bushel for both years and total production of clean seed is estimated at 9,000 bushels this year and 26,000 in 1941. Growers indicated that 46 percent of the seed would be used on their own farms, 29 percent sold to dealers and 25 percent sold or exchanged with farmers.

Reduction in acreage this year for the country as a whole is attributed to the plowing under of much red clover acreage and planting it to soybeans, corn, and other crops, from which larger returns were anticipated. Rains at time of and following the harvesting of the first crop of hay resulted in much damaged hay and delayed the second crop. Accordingly more of this crop was cut for hay than would have been the case under normal weather conditions. These factors tending to decrease the seed acreage were offset in part by higher prices for seed than last year and the fact that supplies of hay in most sections are ample or more than ample.

Yield per acre, forecast at .93 bushel or 56 pounds, equals the record low yield set in 1924. It compares with 1.06 bushels or 64 pounds in 1941 and the average of 1.16 bushels or 70 pounds. Some reasons for the record low yield were the frequent rains at the following pollination, greater use of combines due in part to the reduced labor supply, lateness of harvest, and thin stands in some sections because of drought last year.

Growers expected to retain a larger portion of their 1942 crop than usual for sowing on their farms. If they carry out their intentions they will keep 34.2 percent for their own use and will sell 47.3 percent to dealers and 18.5 percent to farmers. These percentages compare with 29.3 percent, 53 percent, and 17.7 percent, respectively, the disposition indicated by growers for the 1941 crop. Sales of 47.3 percent of the 1942 crop to dealers would total about 412,000 bushels or 24,720,000 pounds of clean seed, compared with about 668,000 bushels or 40,080,000 pounds for the 1941 crop.

RECORD YIELD SEEN FOR SOYBEAN CROP

PENNSYLVANIA farmers responded to the appeal of the Federal Government for more soybean production for beans from which to procure necessary oil for the war effort by planting an increase of 133 percent in acreage this year over that of last year, with a result that latest estimates of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by the Department of Agriculture show a large contribution to that oil supply will be made from this State.

Favorable growing weather also brought increased production, according to the estimates, the yield per acre being placed at 17.5 bushels, which is a record for this state. Average yield last year was 17 bushels per acre. This places the total estimated yield at 612,000 bushels compared with a total of 225,000 bushels last year. The acreage this year is given as 35,000 acres compared with 15,000 acres last year.

TEST 41,953 CATTLE FOR BANG'S DISEASE

A total of 41,953 cattle, representing 3,321 herds were tested for Bang disease during the month of September under supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Of that number 1,395 cattle in 534 herds were found to be infected by the disease which is a 16 percent herd infection and 3.3 percent cattle infection. The report shows that at the end of September a total of 74,155 herds comprising 647,007 cattle in this State are now under supervision in the various test classifications of the Bureau of Animal Industry in the Bang disease control program. There are also under supervision a total of 195 herds of goats consisting of 1,498 goats.

During the month the State paid $37,523 in indemnities for condemed cattle in the control program and the Federal indemnities paid amounted to $32,921.

5 RECORDS BROKEN AT EGG LAYING TEST

WHETHER it was under the impetus of the war demands for greater effort or a natural result of progressive breeding improvement cannot be fully determined but many past performances have been shattered by the entries in the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test conducted by the State Department of Agriculture which has just closed the 1941-1942 test year. Final reports not only show the breaking of the world's record in the Rhode Island Red breed, but also register four other new world's records as follows: Two-year-old hen class, where a Single Comb White Leghorn, owned by J. A. Hanson is credited with 622.65 points for the 661 days of the recorded test against the previous high of 620.40 which was also established in the Pennsylvania test in the 1938-39 test year; two-year-old pen, also Single Comb White Leghorns owned by Mr. Hanson, credited with 6640.90 points, breaking the previous record of 6560.15 also made in this test last year; pen of three-year-old birds, test period of 1027 days, Single Comb White Leghorns owned by Schwegler's Hatchery, credited with 9156.25 points breaking the previous record of 8685.50 points made last year in the Vineland test and the pen of four-year-old birds, test period 1392 days, also leghorns owned by the Schwegler's Hatchery, credited with 10808.25 points breaking the record made two years ago at the Vineland test.

The pen of Rhode Island Reds which broke the world's record for that breed, was the leading pen in the test with a total of 4089.70 points. A total of 51 birds were credited with 300 points and 300 eggs or more during the test year of 357 days compared with a total of 34 birds having attained that production record last year. The highest producing bird in the test was one from the Rhode Island Red record pen which won 361.50 points and produced 331 eggs compared with 355.55 points and 334 eggs for the high bird last year.

The egg production for the entire test averaged 59.95 percent compared with 57.90 percent last year. The average number of points per bird averaged 220.96 compared with 212.86 last year; the average number of eggs per bird is 213.20 compared with 206.70 last year; the average weight per dozen eggs is 24.72 ounces compared with 24.06 last year. The rate of mortality is 16.56 compared with 19.27 percent last year.

For the first time in any world records a bird of the Anconas breed is officially credited with having produced 300 eggs in one year. The bird winning the distinction exactly hit the 300 mark but is credited with 328.40 points. The weight of eggs per dozen establishes the point credits, the base being 24 ounces to the dozen.

LABOR SHORTAGE WILL CAUSE CROP LOSSES

SHORTAGE of labor in some instances and declared inability to pay the demanded rate in other cases will cause a loss of some late vegetables in the Bucks-Philadelphia area, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. Yields of most crops are said to be good but estimates of the amount of abandonment cannot be made until later in the season.

LATE TRUCK CROPS AIDED BY FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

COOL weather and frosts in many areas of the State during the last part of September brought to an end all growth of truck crops in those sections, excepting that of the cool weather crops, according to the latest crop report of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by the Department of Agriculture.

The cooler weather, however, has brought an increased demand for cabbage and supplies from most areas are moving in better volume. Domestic cabbage supplies are still fairly heavy in most sections and in some localities is reported to be rotting and bursting in the fields. The Danish crop in the Erie area is heading well in the late fields but the blight has appeared and may reduce the crop to some extent. Marketings are under way with excellent yields reported. Much of the crop has moved from the Columbia, Schuylkill area and supplies have begun to diminish. Dry weather during the growing season lowered yields considerably in Indiana County. Crop movement for the State as a whole is expected to reach peak volume during early November.

Rainfalls and favorable weather has greatly improved celery prospects in the Bucks-Philadelphia area. Light yields were obtained from early harvested fields. Market demand was slow. Harvest in volume got started during the week of October 5, with heavy supplies available throughout the season.

The late spinach crop in the Bucks-Philadelphia area advanced rapidly during September and supplies are now moving in volume. Many plantings are being cut earlier than usual due to the good market now prevailing. Early yields have been fair with later yields expected to show considerable improvement since the rainfall of late September. A very good crop is in prospect with acreage and yields expected to be better than last year and above average.

The digging of rutabagas and turnips is just getting under way in the Bucks-Philadelphia area and crop prospects appear to be better than for a number of years.

Late carrot fields in the southeast and the Bucks-Philadelphia area look good as tops show a luxuriant growth. Late rains will aid growth and advance maturity of the crop. Early yields are varied with some carrots unusually long and of high quality while others are very rough. Marketings will increase steadily through October as demand is fairly good.

Broccoli production in the Bucks-Philadelphia area will be above last year as the acreage and yields are higher than a year ago. There is an active demand for fresh market and quick freeze supplies. Much of the crop is ready for harvest but the lack of labor for harvesting may cause a loss of some supplies. Movement in volume will continue through October and be over early in November.

Beet fields in the Bucks-Philadelphia area have shown considerable improvement and the rains of late September will be beneficial to the sizing of beets. Marketings will continue at about the present volume during this month.

103,376 SPECIMENS EXAMINED IN MONTH

DURING the month of September a total of 103,376 specimens were examined for disease at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Of that number 64,044 specimens were those of chickens, most of which were for the determination of the existence of pullorum disease. Specimens relating to cattle, most of which were for the identification of Bang's disease, totaled 39,176.

Of the total specimens 35 were of dogs to determine the existence of rabies and 21 of that number were found to be positive. It is reported that 50 persons and 69 animals were bitten or exposed to the rabid dogs in the areas where they were found which included Allegheny, Beaver, Centre, Crawford, Delaware, Fayette, Mercer, Philadelphia, Venango, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

Department Records

Records showing production of the major farm crops of Pennsylvania, on file in the State Department of Agriculture, date back to 1866.

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PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY NOV 13 1942 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CORN BORER SPREADS TO NEW AREAS IN PA. CONTROL IS URGED

ALTHOUGH the surveys of the specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture show an over-all reduction in the prevalence of the corn borer in previously infested areas in this State, the report just completed reveals a wide extension this year to sections which have always been free of that destructive pest, which it is declared is a cause for much concern. For the first time the borer was reported to have infested areas in Lebanon, Perry, Cumberland and Adams counties and surveys conducted show an infestation of 18.8 stalks in each 100 in the latter county. Infestation in the newly surveyed counties were one stalk in each 100 for Lebanon and Perry and 1.6 stalks in Cumberland. The borer is also known to have invaded York County this year, but it was not possible to make a survey in that section.

In the previously infested areas reductions were found from the extent to which the borer prevailed last year excepting in Northampton County where an average of 40.1 stalks in each 100 were found to be infested compared with 31 last year, and in Lancaster County where the rate of infestation was 23.5 stalks compared with 19 last year. In the infested counties in the northern and central parts of the State, only the single brooded borer still prevails but in the eastern and southeastern areas the double brooded specie abounds.

The survey shows the following situations in the counties aside from those which were surveyed this year for the first time: Number of infested stalks in each 100 stalks, Erie, 31.9, last year, 37.6; Crawford, 11.6, last year 25.2; Indiana, 1.1; Armstrong, 4.9, no survey last year in each of those counties; Centre, 9.7, last year, 28; Bucks, 59.7, last year, 73; Montgomery, 64.7, last year, 97; Berks, 16.5, last year, 34. Westmoreland County has been free of the pest for two successive years, according to the survey.

In reviewing the situation, it is declared that it is of vital importance that farmers in all areas practice control measures in every detail to decrease the infestation and to prevent the spread of this disastrous pest which can and in many cases does cause destruction of entire fields of our most important farm crop. Control measures, to be effective must be practiced by all farmers and this should be done religiously to prevent the serious consequences which this pest can cause.

Since the borer spends the winters in the worm stage in corn and thick stemmed weeds the destruction of those harboring places constitutes the best known means of control. This practice has worked quite successfully in areas where the pest has prevailed for some time. Destruction of the winter shelters of the worm may be accomplished by burning, shredding and disposing of the stalks through manure heaps which should be well tramped. Plowing under will destroy the borer if the corn stalks are entirely covered. Any parts remaining on the surface will not only save the borers within them but will also serve as shelter places for borers which leave the stalks which were plowed under. The destruction of the winter sheltering sources must be completed by May 1 or earlier. Moderately late planting of corn will also lessen the number of borers in a field.

Insecticides may be used on sweet corn, rotenone and nicotine being effective, but several applications are necessary which makes this method of control expensive. The destruction of the winter shelters is the cheapest control method, but to be successful must be practiced by the entire community.

Considerable progress is reported in the breeding of borer resistant corn hybrids in both field and sweet corn strains. Farmers can procure information from county agricultural extension agents relative to those varieties.

First Crop Report

The State Department of Agriculture issued its first farm crop report in 1902. Reports were previously compiled from figures of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

NEW OCT. 1 RECORD IN MILK PRODUCTION REACHED IN PENNA.

AVERAGE milk production per cow in herds on Pennsylvania farms on October 1 reached 17.6 pounds, the highest figure for that date on record, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey released by the Department of Agriculture. Seasonal decline, however, in the average per cow production was indicated to be about double the usual decrease from September 1 to October 1.

Condition of pastures was reported to be good and dairymen reported 56 percent of their feed to dairy cows coming from that source. However, barn feeding is rapidly becoming general with indications pointing to a grain feeding rate on October 1 only slightly below the high record for that date reached last year.

One of the important factors in the Pennsylvania dairy situation for 1943 is the feed supply situation and, while some of the statistics are more or less preliminary, they do provide a tentative appraisal of feed prospects. Roughage supplies appear to be eight percent more than last year. Despite farm labor shortages and poor curing weather the hay crop this year is about a fifth larger than a year ago but total supplies are offset by the small carry-over of hay stocks from last year. Silage crops are expected to be somewhat above last year because of better yields. However, in some sections the quality of the hay is low and feeding demands may be as much as four percent greater than last season because of greater cattle numbers.

Carry-over stocks of corn, wheat and oats on farms at the beginning of October were eight percent smaller than a year ago. Production of wheat and oats was also smaller than last season but has been offset by a grain corn output that is expected to be larger than a year ago and also to a lesser extent by larger supplies of barley, rye and buckwheat. Total grain supplies on farms in Pennsylvania can not at this time be expected to be much different from a year ago, with some likelihood that they may be one or two percent smaller depending on how well this year's corn crop husks out. While the increase in grain-animal consuming units in the State is rather indefinite at this time they probably will show as much as a four percent increase on January 1 next year. This increase would mean a smaller amount of home-grown feed per animal unit for the coming winter feeding season than was available last winter.

Increased demand for livestock and livestock products may cause feed prices to advance in 1943. Advances in feed grain prices in the early part of 1943 will be limited by the large supplies of feed available, by the feed-wheat program, and by ceilings already established on feed prices and livestock products. In the latter part of 1943, prospects for feed grain production and ceiling-price regulations will be primary factors influencing feed prices.

Prices to producers of milk for fluid consumption are beginning to edge upwards under the influence of seasonal factors. September dairy product markets continued firm, with sharp advances registered on butter and cheese, and moderate advances on other products.

SMALL PERCENTAGE OF CATTLE HAVE TB.

THAT the program of the retesting of herds under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture is effectively operating to hold at a minimum tuberculosis in cattle of Pennsylvania is shown by the monthly reports submitted to Secretary John H. Light. During the month of September a total of 33,266 cattle were tested of which only 130 were found to be infected with the disease. This shows an infection of only four tenths of one percent of all the cattle tested during that period. It is stated that this situation is not only most gratifying but is of great importance as well to the farmer in that control of disease is the vital factor in any farm operation. This is of still greater importance at this time when ever greater production is necessary for the war effort. It is also an accomplishment through which the State is saved much money because of the reduction in indemnity payments.

RECORD LEVELS ARE BEING ESTABLISHED IN EGG PRODUCTION

UNDER the impetus of the war effort Pennsylvania egg production in September was four percent above that of the comparable month last year and for the first three quarters of this year was 11 percent greater than during the similar period of 1941, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey issued by the Department of Agriculture. The increase in number of layers in farm flocks which begins in September has been well under the rate of the past two years. The addition to pullets to farm flocks is offset to a variable extent by the culling of old layers. Potential layers to be added to the farm flocks on October 1 were indicated to be about the same as on the comparable date last year.

The number of layers is reported to be 12,590,000 compared with 12,282,000 a month earlier and 12,153,000 in September, 1941. The number of eggs produced is given as 138 million compared with 165 million in August and 133 million in September a year ago. The monthly number of eggs per layer is placed at 11, the same as a year earlier, which compares with 13.5 in August.

Egg markets continued firm throughout September and further price advances occurred. It is reported in some places that retail prices have reached a point where they have caused a shifting in consumer buying from top to medium or lower qualities, although the meat situation on the other hand has probably caused a wider than usual use of eggs. Prices have followed rather sharp upward trends in most markets this month. The advances have been greatest on the higher grades, which at New York at the beginning of the month were four to five cents above September 1 prices, compared with an advance of about one and one-half cents on average quality eggs. Government purchases during the month for lend-lease included approximately 12,000 cases. The principal Government buying has been dried eggs, which for the month amounted to approximately 10 million pounds.

Except for the fairly active trading which occurred incident to the Jewish holidays just before the middle of the month, September live poultry markets lacked strength, and for the most part might be classed as weak. Some rather sharp price changes occurred on young stocks, with a general downward tendency noted on this class, particularly in eastern markets where live poultry is a major item. Other markets shared in this tendency to a lesser degree, and in a few, prices on some classes moved upward.

Chick hatching began earlier than usual this year and the demand for chicks has been good all year, especially during the past month in response to the Government's appeal to produce more poultry meat this fall and winter. The present demand for chicks is greater than the supply which is limited by the available supply of good hatching eggs.

Reports from commercial poultry establishments show that the average price received per dozen eggs was 42.5 cents compared with 40 cents a month earlier and 35.7 cents in September, 1941.

The report states that the average cost of 100 pounds of laying mash was $2.95 compared with $2.92 a month before and $2.59 in September, 1941. The cost of 100 pounds of scratch feed on the same dates was $2.21, $2.18 and $1.98. Last month it took 73 eggs to equal the value of 100 pounds of feed compared with 76 eggs a month earlier and 77 eggs a year previously.

FARM WAGE INDEX IS NEARING HIGH LEVEL

THE United States index of farm wage rates stood at 202 on July 1, when 1910-14 is taken as 100, according to statistics of the Department of Agriculture. On January 1, 1941, this index stood aat 124, the subsequent rapid rise bringing it to 166 on January 1, this year, then continuing to the July 1 figure. The highest annual average in this series was in 1920 when the index was 242. The farm wage index dropped sharply from the 1920 level to 151 in 1922, rose during the late 1920's to 180 in 1929, dropped to 85 in 1933, rose to 126 in 1937 and fluctuated around that level until the beginning of 1941.

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FORECASTS GIVEN ON FRUIT PRODUCTION SHOW GAINS, LOSES

LATEST production figures of the four leading fruit crops in Pennsylvania compiled by the Fed-State Crop Reporting Service show little change in previous forecasts and increases over last year in both apples and pears and decreases in the volume of peaches and cherries.

Total indicated apple production is placed at 10,802,000 bushels compared with 8,643,000 bushels last year. The pear production is indicated to be 472,000 bushels compared with 350,000 bushels last year. Apples are placed above the previous 10-year average of 9,-000,000 bushels, while pears show a loss from that average which is 0,000 bushels.

Indicated production of peaches is 1,711,000 bushels compared with 845,000 bushels last year and the previous 10-year average of 1,-000,000 bushels. The cherry crop is indicated to be 9300 tons compared with 9300 tons last year and the previous 10-year average of 704 tons.

Harvesting of the late crop of apples has passed the peak in the commercial areas but at the time that about 70 percent of the crop had been picked but when most of what which remained was of the best late varieties, rains and winds are believed to have caused from 0 to 50 percent of the remaining apples to fall to the ground which took them out of the first grade class. Delaying sprays were applied in many areas this year in anticipation of shortages of pickers, but are said to have been ineffective.

For the first time in this State, dehydrating of apples is taking a prominent place in the processing industry. A number of processing plants have installed machinery for the purpose and a considerable portion of the crop has been purchased for dehydrating. All apples processed in that manner are sold to the Federal government.

WEATHER FAVORABLE TO VEGETABLE CROPS

YIELDS of Danish cabbage in the Waterford, Erie County area have been very good in sprayed fields while the crop has blighted badly in others, according to the survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service. Harvest was delayed somewhat by the unfavorable condition of the fields due to wet weather.

Yields of the late crop of cabbage in Indiana County are also reported to be good in some fields but poor in many others due to the dry weather during August. Yields of Savoy and Danish have been good in the southeastern counties and marketings have passed the peak volume. The crop in the Columbia-Luzerne-Schuylkill area moved out rapidly this year and supplies are on the decline. In that area as well as in the Erie County section quite a number of fields of domestic cabbage have not been cut due to the lack of transportation, the usual number of buyers' trucks not having made an appearance at the marketing period.

Digging of the late beets in the Bucks-Philadelphia area for storage and marketing during the winter months is well under way and supplies will be available in good volume for the current market until the forepart of November. Marketing of broccoli will taper off during the forepart of this month when the harvest draws to a close.

Harvesting of the late carrot crop in that area is well under way which is somewhat earlier than usual due to the rapid growth of the crop during September and early October. Much of the crop will be stored for marketing during the winter months.

Throughout the State celery crops improved considerably during the early part of October and supplies from the Bucks-Philadelphia area reached the peak during the latter part of October but will be available in considerable volume throughout this month. Quality of the crop is excellent, cool weather and adequate spraying having helped many crops to outgrow the blighted condition which existed earlier.

The peak of the movement to market of the spinach crop is being reached. Favorable weather conditions brought fine yields of excellent quality.

15 STATES LISTED IN EGG LAYING TEST

WITH 1079 birds entered bringing the load to capacity, the twelfth annual Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test, conducted by the Department of Agriculture, is under way. The second week showed egg production of 42.63 percent or a total production of 6439 eggs. In addition to those from this State breeders have entered birds from Oregon, New York, Michigan, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, California, Ohio, Missouri, Ontario, Can., New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Georgia and Iowa.

PENNA. POTATO CROP IS INDICATED TO BE LOWEST IN 41 YEARS

THE latest estimates of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture, place the total production of the 1942 Pennsylvania potato crop at 17,380,000 bushels, which is a reduction of 790,000 bushels below the production which was indicated on September 1 and 3,160,000 bushels under the production of last year. If the final figure remains at the latest estimate, the 1943 production will be the lowest in 41 years, records of the Department of Agriculture showing that production since 1901, which was 17,020,000 bushels has each year been above the present estimate. The average for the past 10 years is 24,924,000 bushels.

The estimated yield per acre is 110 bushels for this year which compares with 130 bushels last year and a previous 10-year average of 120 bushels.

Weather during most of September was favorable for harvesting of the late crop. Heavy rains late in the month occurred in the western counties and digging was delayed by the wet condition of many fields.

Yields of late varieties generally are light showing the effects of the early blight and rot due to the wet season. Many fields in northern areas which are badly blighted will be abandoned, others will not be dug due to high labor cost or the inability to secure help.

Most crops have been damaged by blight and early digging revealed much rot. A heavy abandonment is expected as many failures are reported. Blight and rot have reduced yields in the Columbia-Luzerne area although larger growers have fair crops. Katahdin and Sebago were of nice size with some rot. Blight on these varieties was not a serious factor. In the Lehigh-Northampton area both these varieties were fairly good crops and Rural Russet turned out good on well sprayed fields. Weeds and hard, dry ground made digging difficult. In the Somerset-Cambria mountain area blight and rot took 25 to 40 percent of the anticipated crop in some fields, others are yielding fairly large size tubers but with some rot showing. In the Southeastern counties Sebago yields were fairly good. Other varieties, especially Katahdins, rotted in many fields during the wet weather in August. Bucks County yields were good and the tubers large in spite of rot.

More than half the acreage in the State is planted to Rurals, while Katahdin accounts for about one-fifth, Chippewa for about five percent. Green Mountain for five percent, and Cobblers for ten percent. The balance was planted to miscellaneous varieties with Sebago being the most prominent.

ASKING FARMERS TO STORE SOYBEAN CROP

THE Department of Agriculture has been informed that the Federal Government is urging farmers to store soybeans on their farms wherever possible because of insufficient commercial storage and transportation facilities to handle the large crop, and in order to prevent the possible loss of this valuable product. It is pointed out that only a limited quantity of soybeans can be marketed immediately but that farmers will be protected on farm-stored beans through Commodity Credit Cooperation loans, storage payments and purchases. The latest indications place the total yield in Pennsylvania of soybeans for beans at 612,000 bushels compared with a total of 225,000 bushels last year. The acreage this year planted to this crop is 35,000 acres compared with 15,000 acres last year.

HEAVY DECLINES ARE SEEN IN PRODUCTION OF OATS, TOBACCO

CONSIDERABLE reductions are made in the latest survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture in the indicated production this year of oats and tobacco, compared with the indications of September 1. Little change is noted in the other principal crops.

The latest figure indicates that the Pennsylvania oats crop will amount to 26,280,000 bushels compared with indications of 27,156,000 bushels on September 1 and the tobacco crop is now indicated to be 46,716,000 pounds compared with the earlier figure of 50,795,000 pounds. In the case of oats it is indicated that the yield per acre will drop from an average of 34.5 bushels last year to 30 bushels this year and that the tobacco yield will be 1392 pounds to the acre compared with 1471 pounds in 1941. Both yields are still above the previous 10-year average which for oats is 28.4 bushels and for tobacco, 1241 pounds.

Corn production indications remain the same as they were in the previous survey, 58,206,000 bushels with an indicated yield per acre of 44.5 bushels compared with 41.5 last year and a total increase of about five million bushels above the 1941 figure. Wheat production indications are also unchanged at 15,466,-000 bushels which is more than a million and a quarter bushels lower than last year and nearly four million bushels below the previous 10-year average. The average yield per acre is placed at 19 bushels compared with 19.5 bushels last year.

A slight gain over previous indications is noted in barley production which is placed at 4,098,000 bushels; rye remains the same as 841,000 bushels, and buckwheat is also unchanged at 2,080,000 bushels which is approximately 200,000 bushels below last year.

Hay production is indicated to be 3,432,000 tons about equal to previous indication figures but nearly four million tons greater than the 1941 production.

BERRY ACREAGE REDUCED FOR 1943

THE acreage of strawberries in Pennsylvania for 1943 is placed at 3800 acres, which is a reduction of 100 acres below the 1942 acreage, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service survey released by the Department of Agriculture. Indications are that approximately 40 percent of the beds for picking next year will be old beds. Throughout the central and southeastern areas of the State beds are looking excellent with a good matting of plants. In the western counties unfavorable, wet weather made cultivating difficult and weeds got ahead in many beds. A shortage of pickers last spring and the current lack of labor has caused growers to reduce new settings, particularly in the western counties.

Similar conditions prevail throughout the country, the acreage on a nation-wide basis having been reduced about 20 percent from this year to 138,000 acres.

REPORT GRAPE CROP AS SATISFACTORY

THE grape crop in the Erie belt is most satisfactory this year, according to reports of the inspectors of the Department of Agriculture. Quality, price and production are said to be considerably better than last year. Most of the crop is being purchased for processing. Not much of the fresh fruit is being shipped as in former years. All of the production is sold by the growers under inspection by the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture.

BIG INCREASE IN CARROT PRODUCTION

INDICATED production of carrots this year in Pennsylvania is now placed at 294,000 bushels by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service survey. This compares with the production of 229,000 bushels harvested last year. The acreage is estimated to be 700 acres compared with 620 acres grown last year. Production in all the late producing states is reported to be 5,106,000 bushels compared with 4,058,000 bushels in 1941.

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MARKED DECLINE IS SEEN IN PRODUCTION OF BUCKWHEAT IN PA.

ALTHOUGH the yield per acre shows a consistent increase over the years, the total buckwheat production in Pennsylvania has been steadily declining over the past few years and in 1941 registered near the low mark since 1866, according to records in the State Department of Agriculture. Production records date back to that year.

In 1941 a total of 112,000 acres were planted to that crop which yielded a total of 2,240,000 bushels or an average yield per acre of 20 bushels, one of the highest on record. The average price per bushel received by the farmer was 61 cents giving the crop a value of $1,366,000. The largest acreage in any county was that in Crawford with 9,980 acres and a yield per acre of 24.1 which was only slightly exceeded by Lehigh County with 24.2 bushels per acre, the highest yield in any county of the State. Total production in Crawford County was 240,520 bushels and at a price of 61 cents per bushel, is valued at $146,720. Lehigh County with the highest per acre yield had only 220 acres planted to the crop.

The next county in acreage was Bradford with 9,720 acres, but the yield per acre was 18.4 bushels per acre making the total production 178,850 bushels which at an average price of 61 cents, had a value of $109,100. Greene County had the smallest acreage, the total being only 20 acres and the yield was only 13.6 bushels per acre giving a total production of 270 bushels.

The counties listed with more than 5,000 acres planted to the crop in addition to Crawford and Bradford, are Erie, 6,980; Tioga, 9,150; Indiana, 6,120; Jefferson, 5,900; Somerset, 5,950. Counties with less than 100 acres besides Greene are Cameron, 40; Beaver, 50; Allegheny, 60; Washington, 30; Cumberland, 50; Franklin, 70; Philadelphia, 50. The lowest yield per acre was in Huntingdon County with an average of 12.2 bushels from 410 acres planted.

In 1866 total buckwheat production in the State was 2,850,000 bushels from 190,000 acres, giving an average yield of 15 bushels per acre. Acreage continued around that figure until 1872 when it was increased to 205,000 acres and from then shows gradual increases with some annual fluctations and in 1918 reached the peak of 325,000 acres. Yield per acre shows consistent improvement and in the peak year reached 17 bushels per acre. The highest recorded yield was reached in 1938 when the average was 22.5 bushels. The lowest average yield was in 1870 when only 13 bushels were procured per acre. The highest total production was procured in 1918, the peak acreage year, but that figure of 5,525,000 bushels is not far above 1911 when 5,384,000 bushels were produced from 291,000 acres, as a result of an average yield of 18.5 bushels per acre.

HEAVY DECREASE IN WHEAT STORED IN PA.

Stocks of old wheat in interior mills, elevators and warehouses on October 1 in Pennsylvania show a considerable decline from those reported on comparable dates in previous years according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey issued by the State Department of Agriculture. The latest figure is placed at one million bushels compared with 1,220,000 bushels on October 1 last year and an average of 1,593,000 bushels for the previous five-year period.

Throughout the country, however, the report states that the stocks are the largest in nine years of record. The total of stocks in interior mills, elevators and warehouses and stocks held on farms is placed at 900,448,000 bushels. Kansas leads all states listed with nearly 33 million bushels which is double the figure given for the average from 1934 to 1940.

OUTLOOK INDICATES NO INCREASE IN 1943 IN VEGETABLE CROPS

HEAVY increases in production this year of celery and spinach in Pennsylvania are indicated by the latest survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the State Department of Agriculture. The celery acreage was increased to an estimated 900 acres this year compared with 840 acres last year and production is placed at 243,000 crates of 90 pounds each compared with 210,000 crates harvested in 1941. Production in the second late states, comprising Washington, Utah, Indiana and New Jersey, is indicated to be 466,000 crates which is 31 percent below last year's harvest. Most of the reduction is attributed to lower yields per acre although acreage was reduced slightly. Yields per acre in this State are indicated to be slightly above last year and well above average.

The 1942 production of late spinach in this State was estimated to be 805,000 bushels compared with 630,000 bushels harvested last year. The average yield per acre was placed at 350 bushels compared with 300 bushels a year ago. Production in the late states as a whole, which comprise besides Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Illinois, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, Oklahoma and Washington, is indicated to be 2,507,000 bushels compared with 2,029,000 bushels last year.

The revised estimate of the 1943 asparagus acreage in this State is indicated to be 2,450 acres compared with 2,400 acres which were cut this year. The beds in the Bucks-Philadelphia area are reported to be in good condition with stems making normal development of new "eyes" this Fall. The latest survey indicated 45 percent of the beds to be under five years old, 41 percent under 10 years and 14 percent over 10 years.

Preliminary reports indicate that the United States acreage of asparagus for cutting next year, including that which will be utilized by canners, will be 132,590 acres which is one percent above the revised estimate of acreage harvested this year.

Covering the vegetable outlook for 1943 the report states that prices have been high enough to stimulate an increased acreage of fresh vegetables under peacetime conditions. However, it would seem quite optimistic to expect a further increase in 1943, particularly in harvested acreage, in view of anticipated shortages of labor, materials, and transportation facilities. With a possible reduction in total fresh vegetable acreage and prospective yields somewhat lower than the excellent yields of 1942, it seems logical to expect some decrease in the 1943 fresh vegetable crop.

Significant reductions in fresh vegetable acreage are likely to occur in the Western States, where labor and transportation shortages have already been experienced. Shortages of transportation facilities may influence shifts in fresh vegetable areas and determine to some extent the type of vegetables which will or will not be grown. Eastern and East Central States may need to increase considerably their fresh vegetable acreage, if serious transportation shortages develop.

Plantings of such crops as watermelons, cantaloups, lettuce, celery, and cauliflower are not likely to be as large as last year, despite favorable prices in 1942. Farmers are aware of the expected labor shortage for harvesting crops and realize that transportation may be difficult to obtain for bulky, highly-perishable vegetables which must be hauled long distances.

In view of the expected increase in purchasing power, resulting in an increase in the demand for fresh vegetables and with an anticipated smaller crop there will be a strong upward pressure on prices in 1943.

The outlook for processing vegetables is very uncertain because tin allocations for next year are rather indefinite. Other shortages which are likely to be critical are labor and transportation. Farm and cannery labor supplies are already limiting factors in some areas for harvesting and packing vegetables.

SUCCESS REPORTED FOR NEW PROGRAM OF BEE INSPECTION

THE three-year program of the bee inspection promulgated by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, has been successfully carried out with the work performed this year by the specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry. The report of the inspection work during the season just closed shows that the Eastern portion of the State, comprising all the counties East of the Susquehanna River were entirely inspected excepting in Delaware and Dauphin Counties which were not completed because of a shortage of inspectors.

In spite of the fact that war-time conditions made it impossible to have the required number of inspectors, the work was carried out to a successful conclusion, areas in only two counties not having been completed, but these will be covered in addition to regular program area next year.

During the season just closed a total of 6,773 apiaries were inspected. The number of hives in each apiary averaged seven which is about the average for the State. The number of colonies totaled 46,999 and the percentage of disease, placed at eight percent was also about the average encountered in inspections in other areas under the present program. A total of 3,039 colonies were burned due to diseased conditions. The report suggests that it is noteworthy that no prosecutions were entered into nor fines imposed as a result of non-compliance with requirements under the inspection law, indicating complete cooperation on the part of beekeepers.

Previous to the establishment of the present program by Secretary Light inspections were carried on without a definite plan, inspections each year having been made in widely scattered areas of the State and some sections having gone without inspection for six years. Under the three-year program the State was divided into three areas made up of the Western, Central and Eastern counties. This provides for the entire State to be completely inspected each three years and it is anticipated will result in a great reduction in the percentage of disease, cuting down greatly the losses to beekeepers.

Under the three-year plan a total of 154,100 colonies have been inspected. The number of apiaries totaled 23,778. A total of 10,454 colonies were burned because of diseased conditions. This compares with a total of 105,906 colonies and 14,253 apiaries inspected during the previous three-year period.

Inspection work will be devoted next year to the area comprising the Western counties which were inspected three years ago. There will also be follow-up inspection work done in the area covered this year.

A suggestion of the importance of the bee industry in this State is seen in the investment of beekeepers which is estimated at about one million dollars. The average annual value of the honey crop in this State is about half that figure.

NO VIOLATIONS OF POTATO GRADING LAW

General compliance with the potato grading law throughout the State is reported by inspectors of the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture. An outstanding indication of the cooperation on the part of growers and dealers was seen in the case of a large dealer at whose plant inspections were made which included lots received from 21 different shippers and each met in every detail the requirements of the grading law.

During the past few years Secretary Light has insisted upon a program of education and specific warnings where violations were found after an opportunity for compliance was given and the result is now reported by the inspectors to show a most satisfactory condition in all the markets.

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PRICE INDEX SHOWS SIX POINT INCREASE DURING PAST MONTH

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products increased six points during the month which ended October 15, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey issued by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. The increase in prices received for dairy products, together with higher prices for eggs and meat animals, excepting veal calves and lambs, contributed to this increase. The grain index showed an increase of two points but fruits remained at the same figure. At 174 the index of prices received was 26 points above a year earlier.

On a national basis the index of prices paid, interest and taxes rose during the month to 154 which is one point above the revised index for September. This was 13 points higher than the October 15, 1941 index. The ratio of prices received to prices paid, interest and taxes on October 15 this year, was 110 compared with 107 in September and 99 in October, 1941. The general level of prices paid by farmers for commodities used for family living and for production on October 15 was 155 percent of the 1910-14 level. This was one point higher than the revised index for September and 16 points above October 15 a year earlier.

Following is the list of prices received by Pennsylvania farmers with comparisons:

		Oct. 15 1941	Sept. 15 1942	Oct. 15 1942
Wheat	Bu.	$1.00	$1.10	$1.14
Corn	Bu.	.81	.96	.94
Oats	Bu.	.45	.53	.53
Barley	Bu.	.65	.70	.71
Rye	Bu.	.73	.78	.77
Buckwheat	Bu.	.61	.76	.73
Potatoes	Bu.	.80	1.15	1.20
Apples	Bu.	.85	1.10	1.10
Hay	Ton	11.00	11.50	11.90
Hogs	Cwt.	10.80	14.20	14.50
Beef cattle	Cwt.	9.00	11.70	11.90
Veal calves	Cwt.	11.90	14.90	14.60
Sheep	Cwt.	3.75	5.00	5.30
Lambs	Cwt.	9.70	12.50	12.10
Milk cows	Head	92.00	113.00	113.00
Horses	Head	106.00	119.00	116.00
Mules	Head	113.00	130.00	127.00
Chickens	Lb.	.191	.227	.225
Turkeys	Lb.	.25	.27	.29
Milk, wholesale	Cwt.	2.70	2.90	3.00
Milk, retail	Qt.	.120	.131	.132
Butter	Lb.	.37	.43	.45
Butterfat	Lb.	.37	.42	.45
Eggs	Doz.	.381	.413	.454
Wool	Lb.	.41	.45	.45

FOOD PRODUCTS LOW ON RELATIVE BASIS

"WORKINGMEN'S families can buy a basket of specified food products for the smallest share of family income on record since 1913. Average family income has been rising more rapidly than food prices during the past three years and throughout the first nine months of 1942, due to higher wage rates, more hours of work per week with overtime payments, and more persons employed." This statement was issued by the Pennsylvania State Department of Agriculture, credited to a recent analysis made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture based on national averages.

The budget for foods commonly used by a non-farm family amounts to about 22 percent of the family income at recent price levels. This compares with 27 percent of the income for food in the period 1935-39, with 28 percent in 1918 and 29 percent in 1919, the year in which food took the highest proportion of increase.

The report points out that in September, 1942 the rate of family income was 57 percent above the 1935-39 level, while the cost of a typical food basket was up only 26 percent.

The prices at the farm of the products from which this basket was filled had risen 21 percent during this period.

The farmer's share of the retail value of 58 important foods was 53 cents out of each dollar. This was also the relationship prevailing in 1913-15 and in 1920. This share has been over 50 cents since September, 1941. It was 42 cents in the 1935-39 period. The farmer's share of the consumer's dollar varies widely, ranging for example from 86 percent in the case of pork products and 63 percent for eggs in September to 28 percent for rolled oats.

LOWER YIELD BRINGS LOW PEA PRODUCTION

THE total production of peas in Pennsylvania for canning during the 1942 season is estimated at 10,725 tons, or an estimated 483,225 cases of 24 No. 2 cans which are the standard size, according to reports of the Department of Agriculture. This production was considerably below that of 1941 although the acreage was considerably increased. The lower production resulted from decreased yields due largely to weather conditions.

Of the total production five and one-half million pounds, or 2,750 tons representing an estimated 163,750 cases were purchased by canners from the producers on the basis of established Pennsylvania grades under Federal-State inspection. Due to the lower yield the peas purchased under inspection totaled about one and one-half million pounds less than last year.

The acreage planted to this crop last year was 10,800 acres but this was increased this year to 14,300. The 1941 yield, however, was about 2,200 pounds to the acre compared with 1,470 pounds this year.

FARM LABOR RATES NEAR RECORD HIGH

FARM labor rates in Pennsylvania at the time of the latest survey were the second highest on record, according to the Department of Agriculture. According to Federal government figures compiled from Federal-State Reporting Service surveys the wage per month with board advanced from $34.75 to $41.75 within a period of one year while the rate per month without board jumped from $51.25 to $65. The rate with board was exceeded in 1923 but the latter rate represents an all-time high. The daily rate of pay with board advanced within the year from $2.25 to $2.70, which is also a new high mark and the rate per day without board went within the same period from $2.85 to $3.45 which was also exceeded by 15 cents in 1923.

The supply of labor in this State at the time of the last survey was less than half of normal and the demand slightly in excess of normal. The supply was the lowest in the northwestern and southwestern parts of the State which is said to be probably due to the location of an ordnance plant in Crawford County and defense industries in Pittsburgh and vicinity. The supply and demand situation is reported to be critical in all sections of the State and is aggravated in all areas where new defense plants have been located.

Similar situations regarding wage rates prevail throughout the country according to the Federal figures. The latest survey figure represents an 18-point rise since the report on July 1. Usually, it is stated. there is no seasonal change from July to October.

CHANGE UNLIKELY IN VEGETABLE ACREAGES

The 1943 plantings of processing vegetables, as a whole, are not likely to be greatly different from 1942, according to latest surveys of the State Department of Agriculture. Green pea and tomato acreage may increase a little, particularly if the price-support program is continued. However, increased acreage in these crops probably will not mean greater production in 1943 because yields this season were relatively high. Other processing crop production will likely be somewhat smaller than this year, even though there is no change in planted acreage, because the generally favorable growing conditions of 1942 may not be repeated next season.

Cherry Production

Pennsylvania ranks fifth among all the states in the production of sour cherries, sixth in the production of sweet cherries and seventh in the production of all cherries. Total value of the cherry crop last year was one and one-half million dollars. Production of sour cherries was 8,400 tons and sweet cherries 3,400 tons.

TURKEY PRODUCTION REACHES NEW HIGH EXPECT BIG DEMAND

PENNSYLVANIA turkey raisers are in a position to supply a greatly increased demand for Thanksgiving turkeys this year as a result of the increased production trend which has been shown over the past few years, bringing the number this year to a new high mark, according to the records of the State Department of Agriculture. Federal Government requests that meat consumption be held in check to assure supplies for the war effort combined with increased purchasing power are expected to greatly accelerate the demand this year for the proverbial Thanksgiving fowl.

Latest indications place the number of turkeys raised this year in this State at 1,020,000 which is an increase of 10 percent over the 927,000 raised last year which was the record up to that time. The number raised in 1940 was 828,000; in 1939, 753,000 and the previous 10-year average is 593,000. This year's indicated number places Pennsylvania 14th among all the states in turkey raising.

As in costs of all other foodstuffs and commodities, it will cost more to partake of the festive bird this year, the price showing an upward trend at the present time. The average price received by farmers on October 15 in this State was 29 cents a pound liveweight which was an advance of two cents a pound from a month previously and compares with the price of 25 cents a pound on the comparable date in 1941. The average price for the parity base period from 1910 to 1914 was slightly above seventeen and one half cents a pound. Records of the past several years show that the price has advanced about one cent a pound from October 15 to November 15.

According to the records of the Department of Agriculture marketing intentions for Pennsylvania show an average of 41 percent by November, 44 percent in December and 15 percent in 1943. These proportions, if actually realized would indicate that Pennsylvania growers are tending to shift their marketings to later months and to the Christmas and New Year's markets. Actual marketings, however, usually vary somewhat from intended marketings due to changes in later developments.

Turkey marketings this year in the country as a whole are expected to be earlier than in 1941, with 54.4 percent of the crop intended to move in November or earlier, compared with 48.3 percent last year. Christmas and New Year's markets are expected to receive 35.3 percent of the crop compared with 38.9 percent last year.

For the country at large the number of turkeys raised is expected to be increased one percent over last year. Producers' intentions last February indicated an eight percent increase in the turkey crop this year. However, cold, wet weather and floods during the spring months, particularly in the mid-west, resulted in low fertility and unusually heavy death losses of poults from blackhead and exposure. Difficulty in obtaining labor, the high cost of feed and lack of brooding space reduced poult purchases and caused some producers to go out of the turkey business, the report shows.

TEST 33,768 CATTLE FOR BANG'S DISEASE

DURING the month of October 33,768 cattle representing 2,183 herds in this State were tested for Bang's disease under direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Of that number 1,139 cattle in 464 herds were found to be infected with the disease which is 3.3 percent of the cattle and a herd infection of 21.2 percent.

The report shows that under the entire testing program a total of 646,544 cattle representing 76,358 herds are now under Bang's disease control supervision of the Bureau.

During the month indemnities paid by the State in payment for disease infected condemned cattle amounted to $43,162 in addition to Federal indemnities which totaled $33,933.

Four herds comprising 52 goats were also tested and all of them were found to be free of the disease.

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LATEST INDICATIONS POINT TO LARGE CUT IN CORN PRODUCTION

A DECREASE of 1,308,000 bushels in the November indications of the total production of corn this year in this State is shown in the latest survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture. This drop is registered from the 58,206,000 bushel indication of October. The latest figure of 56,898,000 bushels compares with the 1941 production of 53,203,000 bushels and the previous 10-year average of 53,662,000 bushels.

Indications of all the other principal crops, excepting potatoes for which an increase of 316,000 bushels is shown, remain the same as the figures of the October survey. The figures are wheat, 15,466,000 bushels compared with 16,712,000 bushels last year; oats, 26,280,000 bushels, compared with 30,222,000 bushels last year; barley, 4,098,000 bushels, compared with 3,614,000 bushels last year; rye, 841,000 bushels compared with 798,000 bushels last year; buckwheat, 2,028,000 bushels compared with 2,240,000 bushels last year; potatoes, 17,696,000 bushels compared with 20,540,000 bushels last year; tobacco, 48,716,000 pounds compared with 52,518,000 pounds last year, and hay, 3,432,000 tons, compared with 2,868,000 tons last year.

Acreages for harvest this year of those crops are as follows: Corn, 1,308,000 compared with 1,282,000 acres last year; wheat, 814,000 compared with 857,000 acres last year; oats, 876,000 the same as last year; barley, 149,000 compared with 139,000 acres last year; rye, 58,000 compared with 57,000 acres last year; buckwheat, 104,000 compared with 112,000 acres last year; potatoes, 158,000 acres the same as last year; tobacco, 35,000 compared with 35,700 acres last year, and hay, 2,319,000 acres compared with 2,325,000 acres last year.

Indicated yields per acre this year are: Corn, 43.5 bushels compared with 41.5 bushels last year; wheat, 19 bushels compared with 19.5 bushels last year; oats, 30 bushels compared with 34.5 bushels last year; barley, 27.5 bushels compared with 26 bushels last year; rye, 14.5 bushels compared with 14 bushels last year; buckwheat, 19.5 bushels compared with 20 bushels last year; potatoes, 112 bushels compared with 130 bushels last year; tobacco, 1,392 pounds compared with 1,471 pounds last year, and hay, 1.48 tons compared with 1.23 tons last year.

ANNOUNCE CHECKING OF GRADE LABELING

PROPER grade labeling of all potatoes sold in closed packages in this State is now being checked by representatives of the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture. The potato marking act, it was pointed out, makes compulsory the branding or tagging of all closed packages of potatoes packed for sale, transported for sale or sold in this State. A recent court decision held that out-of-state potatoes must be properly marked as well as those originating within the State, when resold within the State.

In view of that decision dealers who sell potatoes which originate at Pennsylvania shipping points or at out-of-state points are not relieved of the responsibility for compliance with the marking law because the grower or shipper might have made an error in marking.

Checking the grades at both shipping points and at terminal markets is now being conducted on a thorough basis. The enforcement of the law, it is declared, has changed Pennsylvania markets from the dumping grounds for off-grade potatoes, to those bearing the highest reputation where buyers may make their purchases with the utmost confidence of receiving the quality for which they pay.

VACCINATE SWINE IN CHOLERA PRECAUTION

A TOTAL of 14,844 swine were vaccinated during the month of October against hog cholera under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture.

TUBERCULOSIS TESTS SHOW FEW REACTORS

ONLY 107 cattle of a total of 36,211 tested during the month of October under direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, were found to be infected with tuberculosis, showing the extent to which that disease has been eliminated from cattle in this State as a result of the intensive control program. A total of 35 goats were also tested, none of which reacted.

During the month State indemnities amounting to $2,960 were paid to owners for disease condemned cattle, and Federal indemnities for the same purpose amounted to $2,204.

The report states that 1,342 cattle were imported into this State during the month and 372 cattle were exported from the State during the same period.

A total of 157,021 specimens were examined for disease during the month at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry, 110,992 of which were of chickens and 45,282 were of cattle.

PA. IN HIGH PLACE IN APPLE CANNING

PENNSYLVANIA has in recent years advanced to a foremost position among the states of this country in the canning of apples and apple products, both in quantity and quality, according to the Department of Agriculture. In spite of the shortage of tin which has curtailed the canning of many products, the upward trend has continued this season. According to Army commissaries, apple pie is still the Army's favorite desert, which is said to account for the large pack of canned apples now being processed by Pennsylvania canners, since a major portion of the supply will be used for the armed forces.

There are, however, other reasons for the advancement of the apple canning industry in this State which are the preponderance of varieties grown in Pennsylvania orchards which are particularly adapted to canning purposes, nearness to the largest consuming centers and the stressing of quality by growers and State grading inspectors.

Inspectors have been located at Pennsylvania canneries during the past 15 years through the harvest season to grade deliveries from growers which enables the canneries to pay premium prices for first quality apples. The grading process has encouraged producers to grow and harvest better fruit and has been a strong factor in the present high rank of this State as a producer of high quality apples both for the fresh and processed markets.

GRAPES SHOW GAIN IN PA., LOSS IN U. S.

PRELIMINARY estimates of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service place the 1942 Pennsylvania grape crop production at 21,500 tons which compares with the low production last year of 13,500 tons and the previous 10-year average of 20,430 tons. Total production for the country at large, however, shows a decrease, the total this year being placed at 2,531,530 tons compared with 2,728,530 tons last year.

Wet and cloudy weather retarded even ripening of the crop in the Erie belt which was all harvested by mid-October. A few grapes shelled before picking could be completed and berry moth damage developed in some vineyards. Yields were about normal and of excellent quality and juice plants took most of the crop. Only a few cars were shipped and there was a great reduction in the number of truckers because of the tire situation. The market for Concord table grapes was good but was slow for other varieties.

Tobacco Production

Tobacco is grown in Clinton, Lycoming, Tioga, Dauphin, Juniata, Snyder, York, Berks, Chester, Lancaster and Lebanon Counties, but Lancaster County is far in the lead with an estimated acreage last year of 33,640 acres of the estimated state total of 35,700 acres.

SEE REDUCTION IN STORED TRUCK CROPS ANTICIPATE LOSSES

INDICATIONS are that supplies of root truck crops, the digging of which is now well along in the Bucks-Philadelphia area, will not be stored for Winter marketing in as great quantities this season as in former years, according to the surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by the Department of Agriculture. Last year the combined crops of beets and carrots, which comprise most of the stored root crops, totaled approximately 200,000 bushels and about 35 percent of that production went into storage. The percentage of the crop to be stored this year, it is believed will be considerably below that figure.

Three factors are said to be responsible for the anticipated reduction in the quantities to be stored. They are labor, weather and price. Wet weather during August caused large portions of the crops to be under water for periods of sufficient length to make the crops unsuitable for storage. Shortages of labor and higher rates than some growers feel they are able to pay has caused them to abandon some of the crop. If there should be an upward price trend before the end of the digging season, it is expected some of this production may be harvested.

Topped beets from the Bucks-Philadelphia area moved to market in a steady volume during October and the present rate is expected to increase slightly in this month. Digging has revealed many irregular beets with some rot reported.

Carrots are beginning to move in heavier volume from the southeastern counties as wet weather had delayed harvest. Quality is good and carrots have sized nicely. Many turned up badly rotted where low spots were in fields. Acreage for canners is now being dug and yields are good.

Market supplies of broccoli from the Bucks-Philadelphia area was light during the forepart of November as most of the crop is now going to quick-freeze plants.

The Danish crop in the Erie County area is being harvested as rapidly as market and labor conditions will permit. Present demand is slow and it is quite possible that many fields will not be harvested as help is scarce. Yields are heavy but due to blight damage much trimming is required. About one-fourth of the crop has been moved. In the Columbia-Luzerne-Schuylkill area growers report that much cabbage will remain in the fields as present prices do not warrant a profitable return, much less pay the costs of harvest and transportation. Considerable quantities of domestic cabbage have been left in the fields in that area. Wet weather hampered harvest in most of the western counties. In Lackawanna County Danish blighted very badly and much will remain in the fields. Cabbage was a good crop in the southeastern counties.

Late celery yields were excellent in the central counties, although much of the crop was small and some was blighted. In the Bucks-Philadelphia area celery crops came out in fine shape, not much blight but evidence of some pink rot. Golden and Pascal supplies are moving out rapidly as market prices are quite satisfactory this year. This was the first season for Pascal in this area and the growers Co-op. has put on a special drive to market this celery in Philadelphia. Wet weather slowed down harvest to some extent but the peak of marketing has passed; however, supplies will be heavy during this month. Crops are now being stored in trenches in most sections of the State and supplies for local marketing during the winter are abundant.

The late spinach crop marketings have passed peak volume from the Bucks-Philadelphia area. Quality continues to be excellent except for a few crops from low-lying fields which were damaged by heavy rains. Much of the crop is being taken by canners and processors. Late planted fields to winter-over are in good condition. Supplies moved in heavy volume during the forepart of November.

TIGHT BINDING TEXT CUT OFF

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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NEW HIGH RECORD IS SET DURING OCTOBER IN EGG PRODUCTION

EGG production in Pennsylvania during October set a new high record for the month and was the 23th consecutive month for which a new record monthly production was established, according to surveys of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service. It is stated this has been due to a combination of the high production per layer and larger size laying flocks. Egg production the first 10 months of this year has exceeded the similar period last year by 10 per cent. An increase of about 12 percent in potential layers to be added to flocks was indicated on November 1 compared with the corresponding date last year.

The number of layers in this State in October is placed at 14,434,000 compared with 12,590,000 a month earlier and 14,122,000 in October, 1941. Egg production for the month is placed at 135 million eggs compared with 138 million in September and 129 million a year earlier. The monthly number of eggs per layer for the month is 9.4 compared with 11 in September and 9.1 in October, 1941.

The survey of commercial poultry establishments shows they received an average of 45.7 cents per dozen for eggs during October compared with an average of 42.5 in September and 38.5 a year earlier. The average price per pound for live chickens is given as 19.9 cents for October compared with 21.2 in September and 18.1 cents in October, 1941. With an average price of $2.91 per hundred pounds for laying mash and $2.18 per hundred pounds for scratch feed, slightly lower than a month earlier but advanced from $2.63 for mash and $1.99 for scratch over October, 1941 prices, it required 67 eggs to equal the value of 100 pounds of feed compared with 73 eggs in September and 72 eggs in October, 1941.

Hens and pullets on the Nation's farms laid 10 percent more eggs during October this year than the previous record October production of last year. A record high production for October was reached in all parts of the country. Total egg production during the first 10 months of this year was also the largest on record for the period, being 15 percent above the previous high of last year and 28 percent above the 10-year average. The average number of pullets not yet of laying age in farm flocks on November 1 was five percent above the previous record high of a year ago.

The September output of commercial hatcheries throughout the country was 17 percent above the previous high output of September, 1941. Chicks booked on October 1 for later delivery showed an increase of 32 percent over the same date a year ago. The strong demand for chicks is largely the result of the heavy demand for broilers. In the Middle Atlantic States hatchery output for September was a third larger than the total for the month in 1941.

ALFALFA SEED SHOWS PRODUCTION DECLINE

WITH a decline of 25 percent in acreage, offset in part by a 22 percent increase in yield per acre, production of alfalfa seed in the United States this year may be about nine percent smaller than in 1941, unless damage from late September freezes was greater than expected. Forecast at 947,600 bushels or 56,856,000 pounds of thresher-run seed by the Crop Reporting Board, the 1942 crop is the smallest in six years and compares with 1,040,300 bushels or 62,418,000 pounds in 1941 and the 1930-39 average of 1,028,220 bushels or 61,693,200

REGISTER 48.73% PRODUCTION AT TEST

THE fifth week of the current Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test registered egg production of 48.73 percent or an average of 17.05 eggs for each of the 1,079 birds entered. The leading pen to date is one of single comb white leghorns which has a production of 416 eggs.

WINTER PROTECTION SUGGESTED FOR BEES

SUGGESTIONS for caring for bees during the Winter months are made by specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture in which it is insisted that bee hives should be protected during that period. It is stated that the better the protection, the less will be the amount of honey the bees will consume and they will at the same time be healthier and the stores saved can be used to build up colony strength for the main honey flow.

It is stated that some beekeepers store their colonies in winter cellars, others use some form of packing while others select a special location with natural or artificial wind breaks for protection. It is pointed out that sugar may be difficult to procure next Spring to feed bees and every precaution should be taken to preserve the natural food stores so that sugar feeding will not be necessary.

Winter cellars, it is stated, are expensive and require careful handling. For the best out-door protection the bees should be placed in a location with the entrances facing the South with protection from the cold winds blowing from the other directions. A natural hedge of trees or bushes, or a fence is ideal and with some form of packing with leaves or straw held in place by tar paper, will stand the most severe weather.

Bees properly protected, it is pointed out, will build up more uniformly in the Spring and the packing should not be removed until the latter part of April. The entrances should be kept free of dead bees so the bees can fly during the warm days throughout the Winter months.

CHECKING ON USE OF COFFEE SUBSTITUTES

AS A result of coffee rationing food agents of the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture have been directed to intensify their efforts to prevent the mixing of substitutes with coffee in violation of the State food laws. During the past few weeks six prosecutions were entered in the Western section of the State and convictions were procured in each case.

Under the law it is permissible to add chicory to coffee up to 15 percent of the volume but if that is done it is required that it be made known through the posting of placards where such a beverage is served and by having it printed on the containers in which the mixture is sold. Cereals may be mixed with coffee to any amount but where that practice is followed it must also be made known by posting placards where the beverage is served. If cereals constitute more than 50 percent of the total volume, the word cereal must be printed on the containers in predominating size.

WART QUARANTINE IS LIFTED IN 2 AREAS

UNDER an order signed by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, two more areas in Cambria County have been released from the potato wart quarantine and Forest City in Susquehanna County and the adjoining areas of Richmondale, Lackawanna County and Browndale, Wayne County have been placed under quarantine, the disease having only recently been found in that section.

The areas in Cambria County which are again free of the disease are Beaverdale and Lloydell, the soil of infected gardens in that section having been treated and all potato plantings checked over a period of four or five years during which no trace of the disease was found. The same program is followed in all sections where the disease has been found. Including these two areas, five previously infected sections of Cambria County have been released from the quarantine during the past year. The other areas are Lilly, Nanty-Glo and Vintondale.

During the past year 12 localities in Lackawanna, Clearfield, Centre, Armstrong, Bedford - Huntingdon - Fulton and Schuylkill Counties have been released from the quarantine.

PER COW PRODUCTION OF MILK LAST MONTH REACHES HIGH MARK

THE average milk production per cow in herds in Pennsylvania was well maintained, according to reports to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service placing the figure on November 1 at 16.4 pounds, the highest figure for that date in 15 years of record. The seasonal decline in milk production per cow from October 1 was normal and was accompanied by a normal seasonal increase in the rate of grain feeding per cow which averaged 6.7 pounds per day on the first of the month.

Milk production on farms on a country-wide basis declined more rapidly than usual during October and for the month is estimated at 8.9 billion pounds compared with 9.5 billion pounds in September and 8.8 billion pounds in October a year ago. Per capita milk production was the highest for the month in 14 years of record.

Milk production per cow, although still well above the November 1 average in most areas, had dropped below that of a year ago in all regions except the North Atlantic. Despite relatively good late fall pastures and ample supplies of winter feed, farmers have been inclined to milk fewer than usual of the milk cows in their herds. Since its seasonal downturn in July, the percentage of cows being milked has been declining faster than normal; and in the past two months the drop has been especially sharp.

Fluid milk prices in this State have shown advances during October. Dealer buying prices for fluid delivery have shown very little change, but milk utilized in surplus classifications, principally butter and evaporated milk, has shown a gain of at least 10 cents per hundred in all marketing areas throughout the State. Buying prices for Class 1 milk have been increased 20 cents per hundred pounds in the New York market for November. Consumption of fluid milk and cream particularly in areas of increased industrial activity is at a much higher level than last fall and some markets report increased difficulty in maintaining supplies.

According to information received by the Department of Agriculture the plan to maintain and increase production of livestock, poultry and dairy farms includes recommendation for deferment of farmers and workers from Selective Service, Army and Navy agreement not to accept enlistments of workers needed on farms and also assistance in increasing production and putting additional farm land into production.

Men who work most of the time throughout the year at dairy, poultry and livestock production are covered by the program if 12 dairy cows are kept with a minimum production of 45,000 pounds of milk annually, or the livestock and poultry equivalent is produced. In general equivalents for one cow are 8.5 hogs raised, 74 hens or 250 chickens raised, 16.5 ewes or 80 feed-lot lambs, and roughly four steers or 3.5 feed-lot cattle. A combination of these animals may total enough to qualify a farm as an essential one. Farms below the minimum animal requirements may qualify if the operator takes steps to increase the number of stock.

ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR PURCHASE OF BEETS

FOR the double purpose of preventing food waste and acquiring supplies to meet Government requirements, the Department of Agriculture has received an announcement from the Federal Department of Agriculture of a purchase program for canned beets in Pennsylvania. The program will be operated by AMA to provide an outlet for fresh beets that will go to waste unless they can be packed. Canners in this State have insufficient tinplate to pack the entire 1942 beet crop which was unusually large because of favorable growing conditions. AMA will receive offers from canners who agree to pay growers at least $15 per ton for the fresh beets that are to be processed and sold to AMA. This minimum grower price is on the basis of field run beets suitable for canning, delivered at the cannery.

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MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY DEC 21 1942 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HIGHER PRICES FOR FRUIT NEXT YEAR IS OUTLOOK INDICATION

FRUIT growers throughout the United States, in general, will receive higher prices for their crops in 1943 than they received this year, it is stated in the 1943 fruit outlook survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service issued by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light. Consumer ability to purchase fruits will be greater than in 1942. If supply and demand were to continue to govern fresh fruit prices, materially higher prices would be received by growers of those fruit crops which turn out to be in smaller supply in 1943 than in 1942. However, price controls probably will be an important factor in 1943. Prices received by growers of pears sold for fresh consumption averaged close to parity in the summer of 1942. If the parity price of apples in October were to be adjusted for seasonal variation it would be then only slightly higher than the actual price received by growers.

The fruit crop in 1943-44 probably will be slightly smaller than the bumper crop in 1942-43. Commercial apple production probably will be materially smaller than in 1942. Pear production may be slightly smaller, and grape production only a little larger. Since military and lend-lease requirements in 1943-44 will be substantially above those for the preceding year, considerably less fruit will be available for civilian consumers. The decrease from 1942-43 in the total supply of fruits marketed fresh probably will be greater than the decrease in total production. Although the amount of fruit canned may be smaller than a year earlier because of tin plate restrictions, the amount dried is likely to be substantially increased so that the total used for canning and drying will be larger than in 1942-43.

The War Production Board, through a recent order, acted to prevent the depletion of canned fruit and juice stocks before the 1943 pack comes on the market. This order prohibits canners from shipping more than a specified percentage of their packs available for civilian consumption during certain periods. For instance, not more than 70 percent of their total civilian supply can be shipped prior to April 1, 1943. Since the civilian demand for canned fruits this season at ceiling prices is greater than the supply available, it is claimed that there would have been little or no stocks available toward the end of the current season if inventory controls had not been instituted.

SPLITTING OF BARK MAY BE PREVENTED

INQUIRIES are frequently received by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the State Department of Agriculture concerning the splitting of bark on the trunks of ornamental trees. The majority of these cases involve trees of rather large size that have been recently transplanted, although this is not always the case.

Practically all such trees observed had developed cracks on the southeast side of the trunk or the side most exposed to late Winter and early Spring sun. In some instances, not only the bark, but the woody portion of the trunk had cracked open, with the bark usually rolled back, causing an ugly scar.

It is stated that these injuries are due to the rapid thawing and expansion of the exposed side of the trunk caused by the bright sunshine of early Spring or late Winter, and at a time when the trees had become solidly frozen during cold frosty nights. Unequal expansion due to thawing is held responsible for the cracking.

Trees may be protected against such injury by wrapping the trunk with burlap, tough paper, or other material before cold weather starts. The wrapping should remain in place throughout the Winter. It should extend from the ground up to the lower branches. Larger trees recently transplanted are likely to require this protection more than those which have become well established according to Bureau specialists.

SUGGEST METHODS TO CONTROL FIELD MICE

METHODS of control of field mice of which there are two groups, the meadow mice which live at the surface of the ground and pine mice which live under the ground are contained in a circular issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture.

Clean tillage and cultivation of weedy waste areas will keep the mice under control by destroying their breeding places. In the case of young fruit trees where cultivation is not possible the removal of grass and weeds for a space of 18 inches from the base of the tree will help protect them from attack. During periods of heavy snow the snow should be tramped down about the trees. Some protection may also be secured by the use of tree protectors of wood veneer or wire cloth placed about the trunk. Repellent washes are also used to some extent. Of these, lime sulphur, about one to seven, brushed or sprayed on the trunk in the late fall has proved effective. Trapping may be resorted to where the area to be protected is small. About 15 to 20 traps per acre, placed in the runways and either baited with grain or unbaited will greatly reduce the number of mice in a few weeks.

Perhaps the most effective large scale control operation is that of the use of poison bait.

Mix together, while dry, one eighth ounce of powdered strychnine and one eighth ounce of baking soda. Sift the strychnine-soda mixture over one quart of rolled oats, stirring constantly to insure an even distribution of the poison through the grain. Thoroughly warm the poisoned oats in an oven and sprinkle over them six tablespoonfuls of a mixture of three parts of melted beef fat in one part of paraffin, mixing until the oats are evenly coated. After the grain is cooled it is ready for use. For larger amounts increase the ingredients in proportion to the above formula. The coating of the oats with beef fat-paraffin is very important and must be well done.

Probably the most satisfactory way to distribute the poison bait is by use of a so called "poison station" which is made by separating two six inch boards an inch apart by two one-inch strips running across the boards. The length of the boards should be about eight inches for the top board and six inches for the bottom board. A groove should be made in about the middle of the upper side of the bottom board large enough to hold a tablespoonful of the bait. These "stations" are placed about the base of the tree and may be partly covered with grass or fine brush. In orchards where mice are abundant it is advisable to place a "poison station" under each tree. It should be placed on high ground so that at no time it will stand under water. The "station" should be examined and refilled as required. The refilling should be done at least two times a year, late in the Fall and again in the Winter, and preferably also in the Spring.

Hawks, owls, snakes, skunks, cats, dogs are among the principal natural enemies of mice. It will be to the orchardman's interest to protect as many of these natural enemies as is consistent with other agricultural practices of the community.

CHANGE SALE PLANS FOR BANG REACTORS

UNDER an order just signed by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light effective December 1, all cattle reacting to an official test for Bang disease shall be sold on the per head basis by the owner to yield the highest possible salvage. This method previously prevailed only for cattle which reacted to the tuberculosis test. Exceptions to the rule shall be made when reactors are sold through the Lancaster or Pittsburgh stock yards. The new ruling also places Bang disease reactors on the same basis with tuberculosis reactors in that they shall be sold at the owner's risk.

The ruling further states that: "All reactors shall be sold subject to approval of the Agent in Charge. All reactors shall be slaughtered in an approved slaughtering establishment under Federal or State Supervision. The owner shall notify the Agent in Charge the name and address of the buyer who makes the best offer for the reactors advising the price to be paid for each animal. Cattle shall be moved only on written permit from the Agent in Charge.

"Reacting cattle shall be moved for slaughter within thirty days after the date of appraisal."

LARGER POTATO CROP NOT LIKELY IN 1943 SURVEY INDICATES

UNDER the stimulation of favorable prices throughout the country for the 1942 potato crop, it is likely that potato acreage will be at least maintained, and possibly increased next year according to the potato outlook for 1943, issued by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light. However, since the expected yield per acre of 135 bushels this year compares with 131 bushels in 1941 and the average of 112.6 bushels for 1930-39 it seems optimistic to expect a larger crop in 1943 even though acreage should be increased by 100,000 acres. Availability of labor, fertilizer, machinery and material for growing and harvesting the 1943 crop is uncertain and may be a limiting factor in some areas. With 1943 plantings of 3.0 million acres and with yields equal to the average for the last five years, the crop would be about the same as in 1942.

Under the influence of increased purchasing power and large Government requirements, demand for potatoes is expected to continue to increase in 1943. Increased demand and the possibility of a potato crop somewhat smaller than in 1942 may cause a further increase in prices. A ceiling on potato prices at present levels might bring about a shortage relative to the quantities demanded, if the crop next year should be much smaller than the 1942 production.

October weather throughout the country was generally favorable for harvesting the late potato crop. Production, now estimated at 379,624,000 bushels, is about one percent above a month ago. The yield of 135.7 bushels is five bushels above 1941, 23 bushels above average, and the highest on record.

Early blight throughout Pennsylvania adversely affected late potato yields. A few fields that were planted early, and others which were frequently sprayed produced good crops. Frequent rains during mid-October followed by several freezes later in the month interrupted and delayed harvesting. It is estimated that 70 percent of the crop will grade U. S. No. 1. In the Erie-Crawford and Potter Plateau areas early blight was widespread just as tubers were setting on the late varieties. Most unsprayed fields were practically failures. Some fields dug were barely worth the cost of harvesting. Russets were badly blighted. Katahdins and Sebago did well and Chippewas were little affected. Growers in the Columbia-Luzerne area had trouble getting a stand in late planted fields. Sebago and Katahdin turned out good, where well sprayed. Russets were a poor crop with yields quite variable. In the Lehigh-Northampton area, the principal varieties, Russet and Katahdin, made fairly good yields. Blight cut down production some but potatoes were well shaped and of high quality. In the Somerset-Cambria mountain area blight damaged fields early, resulting in many small potatoes. Rot was prevalent due to wet weather during the early growing season. In the southeastern counties yields in late planted fields were also reduced by blight. Russets were small and a very poor crop in unsprayed fields. Digging revealed much second growth of Green Mountain and Katahdins. Tubers in low fields rotted badly.

The preliminary production estimate is 17,696,000 bushels or an average yield of 112 bushels per acre compared with the production of 20,540,000 bushels or an average yield of 130 bushels last year.

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FARMER PRICE INDEX IS UP THREE POINTS FROM MONTH EARLIER

THE index of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers for principal agricultural products increased three points during the month ended November 15, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Survey issued by the Department of Agriculture.

Only corn and lamb prices declined during the month. Prices of rye, apples, hogs, beef cattle, sheep and milk (retail) did not change, while prices of all other commodities advanced. At 177, the index of farm product prices was up 26 points from a year earlier. The farmers' purchasing power was 113 in mid-November, six points above a year ago and one point above October 15. Prices received by farmers throughout the nation for the first 11 months of 1942 have averaged 30 percent above the corresponding period in 1941.

Figured from the 1910-14 base of 100 the index of grains is placed at 119 compared with 104 a year earlier, fruits, 136 compared with 118; meat animals, 189 compared with 141; dairy products, 194 compared with 173; chickens and eggs, 179 compared with 154.

Pennsylvania prices are listed as follows:

	Nov. 15 1941	Oct. 15 1942	Nov. 15 1942
Wheat, Bu.	$ 1.01	$ 1.14	$ 1.16
Corn, Bu.	.79	.94	.88
Oats, Bu.	.46	.53	.54
Barley, Bu.	.65	.71	.72
Rye, Bu.	.76	.77	.77
Buckwheat, Bu.	.61	.73	.76
Potatoes, Bu.	.85	1.20	1.25
Apples, Bu.	.95	1.10	1.10
Hay, Ton	11.60	11.90	12.30
Hogs, Cwt.	10.40	14.50	14.50
Beef cattle, Cwt.	8.80	11.90	11.90
Veal calves, Cwt.	11.90	14.60	15.10
Sheep, Cwt.	4.15	5.30	5.30
Lambs, Cwt.	9.60	12.10	12.00
Milk cows, Head	92.00	113.00	115,00
Horses, Head	103.00	116.00	118.00
Mules, Head	108.00	127.00	128.00
Chickens, Lb.	.188	.225	.230
Turkeys, Lb.	.27	.29	.32
Milk, wh'sale, Cwt.	2.75	3.00	3.10
Milk, retail, Qt.	.122	.132	.132
Butter, Lb.	.37	.45	.46
Butterfat, Lb.	.37	.45	.46
Eggs, Doz.	.404	.454	.462
Wool, Lb.	.42	.45	.46

CEILING PRICES FOR POTATOES EXPLAINED

IN RESPONSE to numerous requests for explanations of the potato ceiling prices fixed by the Office of Price Administration, the Department of Agriculture has issued the following statement:

"The maximum prices for Pennsylvania potatoes of U. S. No. 1 quality in 100-pound sacks FOB Pennsylvania shipping point are $2.20 in December, $2.30 in January, 1943; $2.45 in February, March and April, $2.40 in May and $2.25 in June. Pennsylvania farmers are advised to note particularly that these prices are for U. S. No. 1 potatoes in 100-pound burlap sacks as sold by the producer, country shipper, farmer cooperative or other associations and not the prices to be received by the city buyer.

"For U. S. No. 1 potatoes packed size A, two inch minimum, replacing the one and seven-eighth minimum as the grade requires, the country shipper may add 20 cents per hundred weight to the monthly maximum prices listed. For potatoes grading below U. S. No. 1 the country shipper receives 30 cents a hundred pounds under the listed prices for the particular month."

Secretary Light pointed out, however, that the market price of potatoes is still under the ceiling price and cautioned growers that they are entitled to receive the regular market price for their product. Sales by farmers direct to the consumer are not affected by the regulation if the farmer's sales to consumers during the previous month of all commodities produced on his farm did not exceed $75. The regulation does also not apply to retail sales, it is stated.

ERIE CO. PRODUCES MOST OF PA. GRAPES

OF THE 13,300 tons of grapes produced last year in this State, 10,-[illegible] tons were produced in Erie County. McKean County with less than a third of a ton trailed all the counties in grape production. The total value of the crop for the State is given as $[illegible]4,000.

COMPLETE PLANS FOR FARM SHOW GROUPS

ARRANGEMENTS have been completed for the annual meetings of the various State-wide agricultural organizations to be held in Harrisburg January 12, 13 and 14 which will represent the 27th annual Pennsylvania Farm Show, Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, who is chairman of the Farm Show Commission, has announced. The vast show buildings are being used as a school for Army airplane mechanics which will not permit any of the regular show activities being conducted there. Holding of the annual meetings similar to schedules followed in previous years during Farm Show week was decided upon to prevent a break in the continuity of the famous agricultural event. The meetings have been designed to be of particular benefit to agriculture under the stress of war and to also give consideration of the post-war period. They will be held throughout the three days in the Penn-Harris and Harrisburger hotels, Chestnut Street Auditorium, Y. W. C. A. Auditorium and the Education Building.

Of particular interest is the general meeting for all the groups to be held Wednesday evening, January 13 in the Forum of the Education Building for which a program is being arranged to include noted speakers.

BRAMBLE PLANTINGS SHOWING DECREASE

THE number of bramble plantings in this State entered for inspection and consequently the number certified has been showing a gradual decline since 1933 according to the report of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. That improvement, however, has been made in bramble culture is noted in the fact that the percentage of plantings failing to qualify for certification has been consistently lower.

During this year a total of 115 plantings, including blackberries, boysenberries, black, purple and red raspberries, and dewberries were entered for inspection compared with 108 last year and 189 in 1933. Of those entered 85 plantings qualified for certification compared with 83 certified in 1941. Inspections were made in 20 counties and plantings certified in 17 counties comprising Berks, Blair, Butler, Centre, Dauphin, Erie, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lawrence, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mercer, Snyder, Somerset, Union and York.

Plantings were rejected for mosais, crown gall, mixture of varieties, weeds and failure to isolate diseased plants. Growing conditions during the past season were not the most favorable due to extreme wet weather and less than normal sunshine which resulted in weeds having become a problem in some cases before the end of the season. Plantings on soil that was well drained came through the season in good condition and those growers are expecting to harvest a good crop of well rooted plants.

Applications for inspection and certification during next year must be filed in the office of Plant Industry on or before May 15. Applications will be mailed in April to those growers whose names are on the mailing list of the bureau.

CURING CONDITIONS FAIR FOR TOBACCO

CURING conditions of the Pennsylvania Seedleaf tobacco crop have been only fair during October, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting Survey issued by the Department of Agriculture. Some crops are nearly cured with color reported favorable but uncertain as to other quality characteristics because of poleburn and the light weight. A few growers have commenced stripping and early reports vary widely. Percentage of wrappers has been estimated as low as 50. Thin leaf rust and "loose-rib" have been the most common complaints. Late crops are curing out better than earlier ones and this factor will tend to hold up average yields somewhat. Because of the varied conditions and the small amount of stripping done to date it is difficult to predict final results at this time.

DUTCH ELM DISEASE REMAINS AS THREAT TO TREES IN PENNA.

OFFICIALS of the Department of Agriculture John H. Light declared that the Dutch Elm disease is still a threat to the health of Pennsylvania elm trees, in commenting upon the report of the Bureau of Plant Industry dealing with that subject. Up to the first of November a total of 973 infected trees were located and destroyed in Pennsylvania since this disease was first reported in this state in 1938. So far this year 143 infected trees were found and destroyed, compared with 328 trees found in 1941, 262 trees located in 1940, 230 trees in 1939 and 10 trees in 1938.

The Dutch Elm disease work in Pennsylvania is carried out cooperatively by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the Federal Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. The work in this state consists of scouting, sanitation and eradication of diseased trees. Since the beginning of the war emergency period, the scouting and sanitation work have been greatly curtailed. In previous years, scouting work was carried on for infected trees in the major infected area, centering in Bucks county. This year the work is confined entirely to the margin of the major infected area. The purpose of the marginal scouting work is to locate the outer limits of the disease in relation to the entire disease infected area. There are eleven counties in which the disease has been reported since it was first discovered in this state. These counties are: Berks, Bucks, Delaware, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Susquehanna and Wayne.

While the number of infected trees found in Pennsylvania so far this year is considerably less than the number found during 1941, this should not be interpreted to mean the disease is on the decrease in its severity of infection. On the contrary it indicates a heavier infection of the disease was found this year than was found in 1941. In 1941 the scouting included the major infected area where the infection was more concentrated and where a larger number of infected trees would be found. The scouting work this year was conducted in the margin of the infected area and naturally the infected trees would be fewer and more scattered.

It is urged that all persons who value their elms should take precautions to keep them in good health. All dead wood should be removed or any branches that show evidence of elm bark beetle infestation should be pruned out and burned before the beetles emerge. This is especially true in the major infected area. The removal of dead or partially dead wood or trees is considered an important part of the present eradication program. Healthy elms provide unfavorable breeding places for the elm bark beetles which are known to be carriers of the disease.

TEST 31,208 CATTLE FOR BANG'S DISEASE

A TOTAL of 31,208 cattle in 1,884 herds in this State were tested for Bang's disease during the month of November under direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Of that number 1,173 cattle in 447 herds were found to be infected, which is a cattle infection of 3.7 percent and a herd infection of 23.7 percent. In addition to the tests made on cattle similar tests were made on 39 horses and 85 goats, all of which were found to be negative.

At the present time a total of 646,165 cattle in 74,117 herds are under disease testing supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry. There are also 1,-455 goats in 189 herds under similar supervision.

During the past month the State paid $32,076 and the Federal government paid $18,340 in indemnities for Bang's disease condemned cattle.

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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NEW JERSEY STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY JAN 4 - 1943

CONSISTENT GROWTH IN TOBACCO GROWING IS SHOWN BY PENNA.

PENNSYLVANIA'S rise to the position of seventh place among all tobacco producing states in this country has resulted from a rather consistent increase in acreage devoted to that crop and in production since 1866, the year of the earliest available records of the State Department of Agriculture. This State now holds second place in the average yield per acre and ninth place in total value of the crop which last year was placed at $7,616,000.

Although tobacco is produced in 11 counties in Pennsylvania, the great part of the crop is produced in Lancaster County where last year, of the State's total of 35,700 acres devoted to the crop, 31,620 were planted. Of the total production of 52,518,000 pounds, 49,620,000 pounds were produced in that county which had an estimated value of $6,588,320 of the $6,930,000 for all the producing counties. That county, however, does not hold first place in the average yield per acre. Clinton County with 140 acres holding that rank with an average of 1,717 pounds compared with 1,475 for Lancaster. Other counties yielding above that figure are Juniata 1,660 pounds from a total of 10 acres: Lycoming with 1,550 pounds from 100 acres, and Snyder, 1,580 pounds from 50 acres. Chester County with 460 acres and an average yield of 1,465 pounds was a close second to Lancaster. York County with 660 acres is second in the State in acreage but the average yield was 1,310 pounds. Other counties in which tobacco is produced are Tioga, 60 acres, average yield, 1,410 pounds; Dauphin, 100 acres, average yield, 1,335 pounds; Berks, 70 acres, average yield, 1,150 pounds, and Lebanon, 410 acres, average yield 1,390 pounds.

In 1866, according to the department records, 4,000 acres were planted to tobacco in this State which yielded an average of 1,120 pounds or a total production of 4,480,000 pounds. For each of the next three years the acreage was reduced to 3,000 acres, but went again to 4,000 acres in 1870. The next year it was increased to 7,000 acres which yielded an average of 1,120 pounds or a total production of 7,840,000 pounds and from that period on the increase was rather consistent, excepting for some years when reductions occurred. Marked dips in average acre yield occurred at various times previous to 1900, the most pronounced being in 1881 when 730 pounds were produced compared with 1,230 pounds the year previously and in 1898 when the average dropped to 900 pounds from 1,540 in 1897. From the beginning of the present century to the present time the variations have not been as great.

DEALERS' LICENSES EXPIRE DECEMBER 31

LIVESTOCK dealers are reminded by the Department of Agriculture that their licenses will expire December 31 and that all persons who contemplate dealing in livestock during the next year should apply for their license at once. Applications for renewal have been mailed by the Bureau of Animal Industry to all persons now holding a license. Applications must be addressed to the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

LIST NON ESSENTIAL VEGETABLE CROPS

THE Federal Foods Requirements Committee has announced that the U. S. Department of Agriculture "could not assist with production or marketing of the less essential winter vegetable crops." The list of the less essential winter vegetable crops includes cantaloupes, cucumbers, cauliflower, eggplant, watermelons, bleached celery, head lettuce, green peppers, asparagus, and artichokes.

MUCH CELERY STORED IS IN GOOD DEMAND

MOST of the celery crops in the southeastern and Bucks-Philadelphia areas have been harvested or trenched." A few late fields were hurt by freezes during the forepart of November and condition is only fair. Late planted fields did not size up and much small celery was cut. Quality has been very good and storage stocks are large this year. Demand has been good and volume being marketed is steady with an increase expected during holiday periods.

IS ILLEGAL TO SELL HORSE MEAT IN PA.

REPORTS that horse meat is being sold in at least one State for human consumption prompted a declaration from Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture that the slaughtering or preparing of horse carcasses or organs for human consumption in Pennsylvania is unlawful. The Meat Hygiene Act of this State specifically defines horse meat as unwholesome and unfit for human consumption and provides that fines be imposed if convictions are procured for violations.

SUGGEST METHODS TO HALT TREE DAMAGE

SUGGESTIONS for protection of small fruit trees against injury by rabbits are made by specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. It is stated that orchardists and nurserymen each year suffer the loss of many trees due to damage by rabbits which eat off the small trees near the ground line or eat the bark from the stem or trunk. The barking occurs near the ground or snow level.

It is suggested that trees may be protected by the use of a wash made by placing seven pounds of rosin in one gallon of denatured grain alcohol. Wood alcohol should not be used as it will cause injury to the trees. The rosin is pulverized and added to the alcohol in a container with a tight cover. Frequent shaking will hasten the dissolving, but it usually takes 24 hours for the mixture to become thoroughly mixed.

Application should be made to the tree only when the bark is dry. A cheap paint brush can be used for the purpose. The mixture should be painted on the trees to a height of about two feet. One treatment will give protection for one year. One gallon of mixture will cover about 150 to 200 two-year-old apple trees and it will take one man about an hour to paint 35 trees.

Trees may also be protected by the use of fine wire screen or heavy paper cylinders tied about the trunks. Wire screens may be left in place until the growth of the tree has made them too small but paper protectors should be removed each Spring as soon as danger of rabbit feeding is over.

SEES MUCH INTEREST IN GROUP MEETINGS

WITH problems of far greater seriousness than ever before facing agriculture, much interest is being shown in the annual meetings of State-wide farm organizations to be held January 12, 13 and 14 in Harrisburg, according to Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, who is chairman of the Farm Show Commission. The meetings have been planned to mark the continuity of the famous Pennsylvania Farm Products Show which cannot be held this year, the vast buildings devoted to that enterprise now being used as a mechanics training school for the United States Army air corps.

About 25 organizations will hold annual meetings during the three-day period, following schedules similar to those in the past during farm show week. Discussions of far-reaching importance predominate on every program. Federal officials will be present to explain rulings by the government affecting the many phases of agriculture.

Uppermost in interest will be the discussions of the farm labor situation, farm equipment of which only 20 percent of new machinery will be available in 1943 of the quantity produced in 1940, and the diminished fertilizer supplies. A general meeting of all groups will be held Wednesday evening, January 13 in the Forum of the Education Building.

TEST 37,240 CATTLE FOR BANG'S DISEASE DURING ONE MONTH

DURING the month of November 37,240 cattle in this State tested under direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, only 101 were found to be infected, according to reports to Secretary John H. Light. Indemnities during that period paid by the State for condemned cattle amounted to $3,637 and payments by the Federal Government totaled $3,015.

During the month a total of 177,347 specimens were examined for disease at the department laboratory of which 49,147 were of cattle and 126,362 were of chickens. Other specimens were of horses, swine, goats, dogs, cats, turkeys, ducks, guinea fowl and quail. Included among the examinations made of dogs, 24 were for the determination of the existence of rabies, 10 of which were found to be positive. Cases of rabies were reported in Allegheny, Delaware, Fayette, Washington and Westmoreland Counties.

According to the report a total of 18,644 individual dog and seven kennel licenses were issued and there were 23 prosecutions for dog law violations. A total of 1,342 stray and uncontrolled dogs were killed in this State by police officers and 11 stray dogs were killed by agents of the department. A total of 99 claims for damage to livestock and poultry by dogs were investigated resulting in the payment of $2,663 to persons making the claims. Damage amounting to $128 was paid to the State by owners of dogs which had caused damage and settlements between claimants and dog owners amounted to $156.

ALL AREAS IN PENNA. HAVE CABBAGE LOSS

THE weather in Pennsylvania during the latter part of November was quite favorable for the harvesting of late truck crops, according to the Federal-State Crop Reporting survey issued by the Department of Agriculture. Temperatures, though below normal due to several days of cold freezing weather, moderated to allow completion of harvest for all except root crops in the southeastern areas. The warmer weather brought the average temperature for the State to slightly above normal for the period. Precipitation was light and scattered in the east and much heavier in the west to average about normal for all areas as a whole. Preparation and clean-up of fields in many sections is not so far advanced as in other years due to a lack of definite plans for 1943 plantings. The labor situation next year is the big question uppermost in the growers' thoughts.

Most all areas have some Danish cabbage still in the fields and it is now doubtful if much of this can be salvaged. Markets are generally slow and large quantities, which must be moved soon are held in temporary storages on farms.

Movement of the late spinach crop from the Bucks-Philadelphia area will continue so long as open weather prevails. Heavy freezes late in November severely damaged late spinach fields lowering current supplies and the season is now drawing to a close.

MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF MEAT INSPECTED

UNDER direction of the Meat Hygiene Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture a total of 3,510,462 pounds of meat and meat products and 1,887,480 pounds of animal organs intended for human consumption, were examined during the month of November at various slaughtering establishments throughout the State. The examinations resulted in the condemning of 1,092 pounds of meat and meat products and 108,494 pounds of organs. Examinations were also made of 720 meat establishments for sanitation. Ante and post mortem examinations were also made of 40,227 cattle and carcasses of which 135 of the latter were condemned and not permitted to be used for human consumption.

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NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY JAN 11 1943

HEAVY CONTRIBUTION TO MEAT SUPPLIES MADE BY PA. FARMS

PENNSYLVANIA agriculture makes a heavy annual contribution to the meat supplies of this country, according to the records of the Department of Agriculture compiled in a general production survey. In spite of the heavy production, however, it is not large enough to provide for the entire population of the State according to national per capita consumption figures.

According to the preliminary figures for 1941 a total of 466,015,000 pounds, live weight of cattle, calves, sheep and hogs were sold from Pennsylvania farms. That figure is divided into 274,505,000 pounds of cattle and calves, 179,175,000 pounds of hogs and 12,335,000 pounds of sheep, producing a cash income of $29,154,000 from cattle and calves, $12,189,000 from hogs and $913,000 from sheep, or a total cash income from those three meat sources of $42,256,000.

National figures show that the average annual per capita consumption of beef and veal is 60.9 pounds, pork, 63.7 pounds, and lamb and mutton, 6.6 pounds, or a total of 130.2 pounds which is exactly the amount that was originally set as the rationed figure by the Federal Office of Price Administration when it was declared that a meat shortage had developed. At the time of the announcement it was generally felt that a great reduction in consumption was required to meet that figure.

On January 1 of this year, Lancaster County held the lead by a wide margin of all counties in this State in the number of all cattle on the farms and in the total value of those cattle. The number is placed at 105,680 with a value of $9,405,200 or an average per head value of $89. Chester County is second with 69,490 cattle having a value of $6,462,570, or an average per head value of $93. The number of all cattle on the farms of the State at that time was 1,529,000, having a value of $119,612,000, or a per head average value of $78.20.

York County holds the lead in the number of swine on the farms, the total being placed at 45,380 having a total value of $639,860, or an average per head value of $14.10. Lancaster County is second with 34,360 swine having a value of $494,780 or an average per head value of $14.40. The total number of swine on the farms of the State was 701,000 which were valued at $10,205,000 or a per head average of $14.60.

With 118,170 sheep, Greene County was far in the lead among all the counties. The value of those sheep is given as $850,820, or an average per head value of $7.20. Washington County was second with 88,710 sheep having a value of $656,450, or an average of $7.40. A total of 370,000 sheep were on all the farms of the State, having a value of $2,823,000.

20 MILLION POUNDS OF GRAPES CERTIFIED

REPORTS by the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture show that more than 20 million pounds of grapes produced in this State this year were certified by Federal-State inspection as they were received at processing plants. This is nearly double the quantity inspected last year when the figure showed approximately 11 million pounds.

The report shows that most of the Pennsylvania grape production is now being processed instead of being sold on the fresh markets. This transition in utilization has taken place over the past few years, previous to which time the reverse condition prevailed.

The major part of the commercial production is in Erie County bordering Lake Erie. The average return to the growers was about 10 per cent higher than in 1941 but it is stated that labor and other production costs increased up to 30 per cent in many instances.

Service Began In 1914

The Crop and Livestock Reporting Service as it is now operated in the State Department of Agriculture was established in 1914.

ANNOUNCE PROGRAM FOR FARM MEETING

GOVERNOR-ELECT Edward Martin and Governor Arthur H. James will highlight the program of the meeting of all the agricultural groups to be held Wednesday evening, January 13 in the Forum of the Education Building in connection with the annual sessions to be conducted in Harrisburg in place of the famous annual Farm Show. This announcement has been made by Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light, who is chairman of the Farm Show Commission, and who will preside at the general gathering. The principal address for the occasion will be delivered by Wheeler McMillen of Philadelphia, president of the National Chemurgic Council. Addresses will also be given by Secretary Light and Dr. A. C. Marts, director of the State Council of Defense.

The general meeting will feature the three day sessions of the approximately 25 state-wide organizations to be held January 12, 13 and 14 in Harrisburg which have been arranged according to a schedule similar to that followed in previous years during Farm Show week. This plan was decided upon to prevent a break in the continuity of the Farm Show which has operated without a break for 26 years, but which was eliminated this year because of the buildings being occupied as a training school for mechanics for the Army Air Corps.

The agricultural meetings this year are looked upon as being of greater importance than at any time in the past in view of the tremendous food production required under the war program and the difficult problems facing the farmer as a result of the labor situation, shortage of fertilizer and rationing of farm equipment. All the groups have planned programs to cover complete discussions of the various vital subjects in addition to having arranged for the appearance of Federal officials to explain the applications of the orders which are being made affecting agriculture. The meetings will be held in the Penn-Harris and Harrisburger hotels, Y. W. C. A., Chestnut Street Hall and the Education Building.

NEEDED INSECTICIDES WILL BE AVAILABLE

ACCORDING to Government surveys and reports from manufacturers, the supply of insecticides and fungicides should be sufficient to protect the important 1943 crops from insect and plant disease pests, it is stated by the Department of Agriculture. There is a surplus of some important materials and a shortage of others which will necessitate a certain shifting in the use of materials for use as sprays.

The supply of arsenical insecticides, including lead arsenate, calcium arsenate and paris green, is expected to average from 10 to 15 per cent below that of last year. It is proposed that the difference be made up by using cryolite or nicotine where possible as substitutes.

Pyrenthrum and rotenone are two insecticides which are important in this country and the supply of each is said to be low. The exact supply of pyrethrum is not known at present but it is said to be evident that it will be as much as 50 per cent below that used this year and a similar situation is said to exist in regards to retenone. Cryolite, nicotine, oils and arsenicals may be substituted and it is advised that growers prepare at once for these changes.

Of the other insecticides, estimates are made indicating an adequate supply for 1943. These include cyanides, fish oils, miscible oils, paradechlorobenzine, tartar emetic and sulphur. Of the materials used to control plant diseases, copper compounds seem most important and present indications are said to point to the same quantity being available for 1943 as was used in 1941. Copper is under government control and the distribution is under WPB order.

Government agencies expect about an 80 per cent normal supply of mercurials. There is an adequate supply of sulphur. It is pointed out, however, that transportation may become a problem in procuring such materials as liquid lime sulphur.

EGG PRODUCTION IS MAINTAINING RECORD LEVEL OF PAST YEAR

AN INCREASE of 13 percent in the number of layers on farms in Pennsylvania occurred in November compared with the number in October as a result of large additions of pullets to laying flocks, according to the survey of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service. The greater number of layers kept Pennsylvania egg production at the peak levels which have prevailed during the past year. Production per layer which declines seasonally from October to November was one percent less than a year ago. The decline in feed prices which is expected at this season of the year when current year supplies become available was less than a year ago at the similar period but egg and poultry prices have continued to rise.

The number of layers in November is placed at 16.273,000 compared with 14,434,000 a month earlier and 15,871,000 in November, 1941. The number of eggs produced during the month was 137 million compared with 135 million during each of the months of October this year and November, 1941. The monthly number of eggs per layer was 8.4 compared with 9.4 in October and 8.5 a year previously.

According to reports from commercial establishments an average of 46.4 cents per dozen was received during November compared with 45.7 cents in October and 40.3 cents in November 1941. The average price received for live chickens was 22.4 cents per pound compared with 19.9 cents in October and 40.3 cents a year previously. The cost per hundred pounds of laying mash was $2.90 compared with $2.91 in October and $2.62 in November 1941 and the price for scratch feed was $2.18 per hundred pounds in both November and October compared with $1.96 in November 1941. On the basis of those prices it took 66 eggs in November to equal in value 100 pounds of feed compared with 67 eggs in October and 68 eggs a year previously.

Strong demand, repaid exhaustion of reserve stocks and announcement of 1943 production goals high lighted the November Poultry markets. Wholesale prices continued firm and would undoubtedly have moved upward but for the ceiling restrictions. However, in many instances these prices appeared largely nominal as dealers were able to move their limited receipts and storage stocks in jobbing channels of trade having higher permissible ceilings. Light available stocks of storage eggs and the abnormally heavy demand were dominating factors. November egg receipts at the four principal markets ran more than 20 percent above November a year ago as compared with an increase of 12 percent during October.

The report shows that production throughout the country was 17 percent above the previous record November production reached last year and 61 percent above the previous 10-year average. Egg production goals for 1943 for the country at large call for an eight percent increase with minimum prices equivalent to not less than 30 cents per dozen in the Spring and early Summer and an annual average price of 34 cents per dozen, the basis being the U. S. average farm price. Poultry production goals call for four billion pounds of chickens and 560 million pounds of turkeys to be consumed as meat. This is an estimated increase over 1942 production of 28 percent and 15 percent respectively. Prices for chickens and turkeys, exclusive of broilers and chickens under three pounds, will be supported at 90 percent of the parity price.

PRODUCTION IN TEST PLACED AT 55.30%

THE tenth week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Test, conducted by the Department of Agriculture, showed production of 55.30 per cent for the 1,079 competing birds. Total eggs produced to that time numbered 41,766 giving an average of 38.62 eggs per bird. The average egg weight was 23.88 ounces per dozen. A pen of Rhode Island Reds with a production of 809 eggs and a score of 843.05 points, was in the lead.

End of Volume